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1822—1827

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New Bedford 22 Nov 1822

I P Hutchinson Esqr
Lisbon

Our Mutual friend Coat Grinnell Jr has transferd on half of your draft for 200 boxes Sperm Candles to me — he being unable to fulfill it — I have accordingly shipped them on the same terms you proposed to him by the Brig Parthian Capt Nye — Bill of Lading & Invoice of which is enclosed, Amounting to $1036.92 which with the prem. of Insurance on $1036.92 at 1¼ pr ct & 1¼ pr ct on the Amount of the prem. & 50 ct for half of the policy makes the whole Amt $1051.88 ½ of which sum say Five hundred ~~Twenty five~~ 88/100 Dolls I have ch^d to your account — which you will please remit to me by the Return of the Parthian —

The probable net pas of my half of the Invoice I request you to invest in the best Port Wine in quarter Casks — I wish you to be particular in selecting that of the best quality you can find & ship it by the Parthian — Should these Candles sell so as to nett the Invoice price I shall be happy to make you another consignment —

I am respectfully
yr obd
Wm T Russell

New Bedford 23 Nov 1822

Caleb Hathaway
Philadelphia

Your favor of 14th inst with
Acc Sales of 30 boxes Sperm Candles I have recd &
the Sales appears to be correct & are satisfactory —

The old adage which you quote applies very
well to the sale of Oil & Candles. I am fully sen-
sible that forty men cannot oblige one to buy, neither
can they oblige a horse to drink, but if you perse-
vere in leading them to the fountain you may
at last prevail on them to sip a little even if they
are not thirsty — I rest perfectly satisfied that
you will do the best you can for our interest & am
in hopes that you will be able to clear off your
present stock in the course of the Winter so as to
start afresh next Spring — I have quite a large
stock to manufacture for others this Winter, which
will be ready for a Market next Spring — I shall
have the care of shipping it & hope you will be
able to sell a large share of it — Will you do
me the favor to select for me 2 bbls of Flour half
a barrel of Buck wheat for my families use & send
it by the return of the William. I would not
trouble you with so trifling an order but it is
extremely difficult to get the best flour here of
late I have been very much deceived in several
instances —

Respectfully yr frd
Wm F Russell

New Beafora 29th Nov 1822

Black & Keith
Charleston S.C.

Annexed is Invoice of 7 Casks of Strained Sperm Oil shipped to you per Sloop Juliana Capt . which you will dispose of to best advantage & remit the nett proceeds to Henry Grinnell New York Subject to my Order. Capt . is bound from Charleston to Beaufort N.C. I would take this Oil without any additional freight. if in your opinion it could be disposed of to better advantage there than in Charleston. - perhaps it would be best to send a part of it. I however leave it entirely to your judgment -

I wrote you on the 4 Oct. per Sloop Ann Capt Austin & enclosed Invoice of 15 Casks Strained Oil shipped by that vessel. I have not yet had the pleasure of receiving a line from you. I trust it arrived safe & to a good Market -

Respectfully Yours
Wm T. Russell

New Beafora 9 Dec 1822

Elisha Hathaway
Boston

Annexed you have Invoice of 29 Casks of Strained Oil per Sloop Pomona Capt Sikes for account of Mr Wm R Rotch individually. which you will dispose of to best advantage & account to Mr Rotch for the nett proceeds. This Oil has been exposed to the cold weather & was thick when it was put on board the vessel. & I expect will appear thick when taken out but you may be assured it is good Oil -

very truly yr friend
Wm T Russell

New Bedford 31 Dec 1822

Henry Grinnell
New York

Annexed you have
Invoice of 63 Casks of prepared body Oil shipped
per Sloop Rodman Capt Wood. for account
& risk of Joseph Rickerson. which you will
dispose of to best advantage & account to him
for the nett proceeds -

very truly Yours
Wm J Russell

N Bedford 3 Jany 1823

Hall & Marean
Baltimore

I wish you to ship
80 or 100 boxes of the Candles that you put
Sloop Experiment to Gilbert & Russell & Co
of New Orleans by the first good vessel
bound there please your post - I am induced
to make this shipment to N Orleans from
the information I have rec'd from my friends
there who inform me they have sold all the
Candles I have sent them at 42 ¢ & wish
for a further supply - Not having any Candles
on hand at present & knowing they were very
dull in Baltimore & that you had not
sold more than about 30 boxes (as your Clerk
inform'd me when I passed thro' your City
the other day) I think it will be to our interest
to send about the number mention'd that
are in your hands - I conclude you will
have about as many left as you can sell
in the course of the winter - I shall
have a large quantity of Candles on hand

next Spring & shall then be happy to send you as many as you can dispose of —

When I passed thro your City the other day I left a Note requesting you to send a box of Candles to Mr Pleasonton of Washington which I hope you have attended to as he is a gentleman whom I wish to oblige —

Respectfully Yr friend
Wm J Russell

New Bedford 4 Jany 1823 —

John W Russell
New York

Annexed is Invoice of 17 Casks of Winter Oil per Sloop Rodman Capt Wood which you will sell to best advantage 3/4 ths of the nett proceeds to the Cr of Wm R Roch & Co & 1/4 th to my Cr — This Oil I think you will find to be of a very good quality — it has been prized since my return & therefore fresh & neat — There is not quite so much as I promised to send you but it is all I have on hand — I shall have an opportunity to send you more in the course of the winter should you need it —

In your A/c which you have sent to me made up to the end of 1822 you have omitted to credit me with 150 Dolls paid Mrs Paul Delano at your request 13 Sept 1820 —

I wish you to close the Sales of the Candles & Winter Oil sent You last Year as soon as possible You are at liberty to put them at one cent below the Market price so that the Sales may be closed —

very truly Yours
W J Russell

New Bedford 9 Jany 1820

Robt Robertson
Newport

Mr Cyrus Grinnell Junr will sell You 50 boxes Sperm Candles at 33 cts Hake Hemp in payment at 180 dolls per ton - if it is the best St Petersburg - provided you can wait one Month from this time for the Candles He will deliver the Candles in Newport if there is any opportunity to send them by water - but will not obligate himself to transport them by land - Mr Grinnell is the only person who is willing barter Candles for Hemp -

Respectfully Yours
Wm J Russell

New Bedford 9 Jany 1823

Robertson Potter Esqr
Newport

I will manufacture your Head Matter Oil, refine & prepare it ready to make into Candles for thirty dollars per ton - You must deliver the Oil at the Candle Works Hake it when manufactured from them - payment to be Made when the Oil is manufactured & ready for delivery - Should you wish me to manufacture your body Oil next Spring I will give me a full proportion of body to the Head, Say two thirds body & one third head I will engage to manufacture it for twenty dollars per ton - If you conclude to send me your Oil there is no time to be lost about it - it should be here in ten days at furthest -

I am respectfully Yours
Wm J Russell

New Bedford 9 Jany 1823

Caleb Hathaway
Philadelphia

Your favr of 13th ult to covering a/c Sales of 50 Casks Straits Oil I found on my return home – the Sales are correct & very satisfactory – You will oblige me by making out my A/c to the end of the Year & forwarding it to me also a Sketch of the Sales up to the present time that I may know what Amt I have in your hands – Since my return I have been purchasing more Oil & use all the money I can raise – If it should be perfectly agreeable to you I should like to draw on you for something in advance – please state what Amt you would be willing to advance me

Very Truly Yr frien
Wm F Russell

New Bedford 10 Jany 1823

David Anthony
Providence

Your favor of 28th ult to covering a/c Sales of 14 Casks Sperm Oil duly came to hand in my absence – the Sales are correct & satisfactory – The draft which W R Roth & Co drew on you for my account dated 26 Dec 1822 at sight for 200 dolls while I was absent from home receives my approbation I mention this to do away any fears you might possibly entertain of my acknowledging it –

You will oblige me by balancing my A/c at the close of last Year forwarding it to me –

Respectfully Yr frd
Wm F Russell

New Bedford 10 Jany 1823

John W Russell
New York

I have rec'd a letter from
J & Russell & Co stating they have sold all the
Oil I have sent them & wish for another supply
immediately - I request you will send them
1000 gals. of the same Oil sent you per Sloop
Shipbuilder - by the first good vessel bound to
New Orleans - be particular to have it well
coopered & put in good order previous to shipping
it & forward me a Mem. of the quays. -
This article is to dull in N York I presume
you will be glad to get clear of it - I have not
a barrel in the candle works & the parcel in your
hands is the only Oil I can send them -

Yr affec. cousin -
Wm G Russell

New Bedford 10 Jany 1823

David Wilkinson Esq
Pawtucket

I have broken another
step to the flask press screw - it is cracked
thro' the middle in the same way as the one
which you have lately replaced - You will
oblige me by sending another step by the stage
as soon as possible -

Respectfully Yours
Wm G Russell

New Bedford 12 Jany 1823

Elisha Nathaway
Boston

Messrs Nathaway have shown me your letter respecting shipping Wm K Ketch & Co & myself have in your hands by a vessel bound from your port to Havana & St Petersburg - I have conversed with them on the subject & we have all agreed to make the shipment as you proposed. - Messrs Nathaways will write you by this mail & direct you what quality of Duck we wish our funds invested in. - you will please be governed by their directions in regard to ours. I have received your letter apprizing me of the failure of a man to whose you had sold some of our oil. it is rather provoking to lose money in this way. but we have no disposition to blame you. such accidents will happen in the course of business

Very truly Your friend

New Bedford Jany 1823

Major G. E. Russell Esq
New Orleans

Your favors of 20 Nov & 4th Dec came to hand while I was absent from home. or they should sooner have recd my attention Your sales of oil & candles more than equal my expectations. Not having either of those articles on hand at this moment - I have ordered Messrs Hall & Marean of Baltimore to send you 100 boxes. I have in their names. they were made at the same time & are equally as good as those I have sent to you - I have also requested Mr Russell to send you 1000 gallons of straining Sperm oil which was manufactured at the same time as

that which you have sold & of course must be equally as good. - In regard to your observation respecting the contract you G & R & myself contemplated making with the corporation of your City - I have to observe. that the question whether we ought to be benifited by the sale of oil to the corporation. the same as though you had made a contract with them. I submitted to my partners & to Gunnell Esqr. they have decided it would be very unjust for us to demand it. - this is also my opinion. besides this oil was not sent to you for that object. but was shipped for your account of Wm R Rotch Jr & myself - If you had made the contract. I should have sent you oil expressly for that object & should have invoiced it for yours & my account jointly. I think when you reflect on this subject you will acknowledge our views of it as correct. -

New Bedford 12 Jany 1823

Jno I Sam'l Whitehorne
Newport -

I have rec'd your favor of 9 Inst per Sloop Patty with 17 casks of Sperm Matter Oil. which is safely landed. I shall commence manufacturing it immediately - it is quite as well to keep the body oil till Spring - The Candles I shall endeavour to have ready for you as promised -

Respectfully Yrs
W G R -

New Bedford 28 Jany 1823

Henry Grinnell
New York

Annexed is Invoice of 30 Casts of Winter Oil shipped per Sloop Experiment for Acct & Risk of Joseph Rotch & Son. which you will dispose of to best advantage & account to him for the nett proceeds. This Oil is rather dark in consequence of its being burnt on board of the Ship. This does not injure the quality of the Oil except in its appearance. The quality I think you will find to be excellent. The casts are newly made from old ones. they will want examining after & perhaps new driving.

Very truly Yours
Wm. Russell

New Bedford 28 Jany 1823

David Wilkinson Esq.
Pawtucket

I wrote you on the 10th inst requesting you to send me a step for one of our Black Fish screws, to replace one which has been broken since Your Man was here repairing the Straight press. Since which I have not hear'd from you. We have a large stock of Oil to press this winter & it is of great importance that the step should be replaced immediately. I beg of you to have the goodness to attend to it & send it by the Stage without delay.

Respectfully Yours
W. Russell

New Bedford 17 Feby 1823

Jno G & Sam'l Whitehorne
Newport.

Your favor of 16th inst with 34 Casks of Sperm Oil I rec'd yesterday per Sloop Rebeck — I am sorry you sent the head matter as it will give me a great deal of trouble to manufacture so small a quantity by itself. I will however do the best I can with it — I have sent you by this Vessel 36 boxes Sperm Candles & 13 Casks of Winter Oil as per Mem. enclosed — I have no more Candles made but if the vessel should be detained a day or two I can make out the complement of 50 boxes — I have also sent you 4 empty Oil casks which with the 13 casks of Oil makes 17 Casks the number you sent me containing head matter.

Respectfully &c
W & Russell

New Bedford 17 Feby 1823

Robert Roberson
Newport

Mr Jos Rotch of this place will barter 50 boxes of Candles at 33 ¢ per lb for Hemp @ $180 per ton which was the offer you made me when I was in Newport — If you are inclined to accept of this offer you will please inform me of it by return of Mail —

I am respectfully &c
W & Russell

New Bedford 19 Feby 1823

Jno G & Sam'l Whitehorne

Newport

The Rochester being detain'd I am able to make out 50 boxes Candles. I wrote you on the 17th & sent you a mem. of the lot of 36 boxes — I have now sent on board 14 More. The weight of the whole is 148 3/4 lbs

Respectfully &c

W T Russell

New Bedford 26 Feby 1823.

Caleb Hathaway

Philadelphia

Your favor of 18th inst was duly rec'd in reply to which I have to state that W R Rotch & Co myself have concluded to offer proposals to supply the City of Phila with Oil agreable to the advertisement published in the newspapers & am hereby authorized you to offer proposals for us on the following terms viz forty eight cents for Sperm Oil & sixty five cents for Winter to be deliv'd in Phila. This is the lowest possible price we can name — I understand there is a good deal of management in your City in making these contracts — it is possible you may ascertain that it will do to go a little higher — This however I leave entirely to your discretion & also the terms of payment taking care to make the Oil as short as possible —

I suppose it will be necessary to get some person residing in Phila to be security for the faithful performance of the contract. That favor we must

ask of you — Should you or the Com.rs
ask for any other security — Wm Rotch Jun.r
has authorized me to say he will be security
for us — We shall expect to allow you the
usual Commission say 2½ p.r ct — That
you will do the best you can for us in
managing this business —

I am respectfully y.r ob.t
W.m Russell

New Bedford 27. Feby. 1823

David Wilkinson & Co
Pawtucket

The Cap of the taught
prop is broken — I have sent it by the bearer
& ordered him to wait until you can cast
another — I beg of you to use every possible
exertion to finish it as soon as possible —
The delay this will occasion is a very curious
inconvenience — I fear there will be no end
to the trouble & vexation I ~~have~~ shall have
with this prop — it never has worked well
& I do not believe it ever will — The bearer
having always work'd at the taught prop can
can give you every information about it —

Respectfully Yours
W.m Russell

New Bedford 27 Feby 1823

Robert Robinson
Newport

I have rec'd your favr of 20th inst offering to barter Hemp at $185 pr ton for 50 boxes Sperm Candles at 33 ¢ pr lb —
Mr Joseph Rotch has authorized me to say that he will accept of your proposition — He expects the hemp will be the best St Petersburg clean Hemp — Capt West's packet will be ready to leave here about the 1st of March & will probably be in Newport on or before the 12th unless she should be obstructed by the ice — The candles will be sent by her & she will take the hemp — Have you any dust which you would be willing to barter for Candles — If you have any of approved marks I will put it at a fair price & take Candles at 33 ¢ pr lb I should like to make the exchange — If you accept of this proposal you will please write to me & describe the marks & the price of each quality —

I am respectfully &c
W R Russell

New Bedford 10 March 1823

David Anthony
Providence

Annexed is Invoice of 75 boxes Sperm Candles sent pr Sloop Henry Capt West which you will dispose of to best advantage — 3/4ths of the nett proceeds pay to the Cr of W R Rotch & Co & 1/4th to my Cr — I hope you will be able to sell them Candles this Spring — I am disposed to let them go at the market price for N Bedford brands, whatever it may — or if you can sell them altogether

over

you may put them at one cent less than what is considered the Market price -

I duly rec'd your favor of 18 Nov 18 with Inv which appears to be correct -

Respectfully &c
Wm J Russell

New Bedford 12 March 1823

Gilbert E Russell & Co
New Orleans

Your favors of 17 Dec & 1st Feby are rec'd - A Swains Bill on Wm W & Thos Swain for 200 dolls enclosed in your letter of 17 Dec has been paid, & that sum I have placed to your credit in a/c -

I regret to learn you have disappointed in the sale of the Oil - the prospect looked so flattering that I was induced to order 1000 gallons now sent to you from Inv of Russell - I hope you will be able to sell it this Spring - I had rather you would sell it at 60 c or even less than keep it over the Summer - I do not doubt you will do the best you can with it if it will not sell I recommend you to stow it on the ground & have it coopered when you see any signs of leakage -

Messrs Hall & Marean of Baltimore have sent you 79 boxes Sperm Candles by my order they were shipped per Brig Harriot which ~~boat~~ vessel was to sail about the 5th of March the nett proceeds you will please dispose of as before advised in my letter of 17 Sept last -

I shall shortly make you another shipment of 50 to 100 boxes Candles, & shall calculate to keep you supplied with that article -

very truly &c
Wm J Russell

New Bedford 12 March 1823

John W Russell
New York

Your favors of 23 & 29th ult
Jany & 22 Feby. were duly rec'd. the Amount you
paid Henry Grinnell for the bal. of my a/c
is Sept 1822. I now perfectly recollect having
neglected to make the entry on my books it has
entirely escaped my memory — Capt Perry has
paid me the Amt of the due bill you sent me
which sum say $81.48/100 I have placed to
your credit in a/c — Your sales of Winter
Oil per Shipherdess is correct & satisfactory —
very truly &c
Wm T. Russell

Elisha Hathaway
Boston

New Bedford 25 March 1823

Annexed is Invoice of 73 Boxes
Spermd Candles shipped in Sloop Emily which you
will dispose of to the best advantage 3/4 of the
net proceeds place to the Cr of W R Roteh & Co. - and 1/4
to my Cr. — There is not so many small sizes as I
should wish. not having any more on hand
If you find that the market at Gibraltar or
any other port will give any encouragement for a
shipment of Candles I wish you would inform me
of it.
Very truly Your Friend
Signed Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 10 Apr 1823

Elisha Hathaway
Boston

Your favor of 1st inst was duly rec'd — We have been undetermined about shipping Candles to Calcutta, which is the cause of my not answering your letter before — We have concluded not to send any to Calcutta, but would like to ship 50 boxes to Gibraltar should a good opportunity present — I will send you 50 boxes for that purpose or you may take a part of the Invoice sent you per Emily — Should you have an opportunity to ship them before I could send them to you — I should think that in some of the ports up the Mediterranean Candles would do well — Should you hear of any foreign port where the price of Sperm Candles would warrant a shipment I will thank you to inform me of it —

very truly yr friend
Wm C Russell

New Bedford 18 Apr 1823

Messrs Blake & Keith
Charleston

Mr Benjn Russell informed me when he returned from Charleston last Winter that you had sold the Oil I shipped to you at 85 ¢ — I have not yet received a line from you — not even to acknowledge the receipt of the Oil — I request you will have the goodness to render me a/c Sales & if you have received any monies on a/c of Sales to remit it to Mr Henry Grinnell New York — trusting I shall soon have the pleasure of hearing from you I remain

respectfully yr ob
W C Russell

New Bedford 28 Apr 1823.

Alexander Black
Charleston S.C.

Since writing you on the 18th inst I have recd a Letter from you of 7th inst informing me you have sold all the Oil per Sloop Ann but the parcel per Julia-Ann remains on hand. & that one of the purchasers refuse paying a balance of 135 dolls. on the ground that the Oil was not of the genuine kind. The Oil I assure you was pure Sperm Oil & was as well Manufactured as any that ever was sent from this place, perhaps some of it was rather of a dark Colour, but that does not injure the quality of it. I could not have you however prosecute the suit you have commenced against him. for perhaps I might not only loose the 135 dolls. but something in addition to it. as it appears by your Statement he is not an honest Man. Under these circumstances I would chuse you would take back the balance of the Oil he may have remaining, or make the best compromise you can. I regret to hear the Oil per Julia-Ann is not sold. I hope you will be able to dispose of it this Spring even at a low price. if you can barter it away for Cotton or Rice you are at liberty to do it, & ship it to me or if there is no proper Cotton to this place ship it to New York consigned to Mr Henry Grinnell.

The balance I have in your hands I request you to remit to Mr Henry Grinnell if you have not done it before the receipt of this.

Respectfully Yr Frd

Wm Rotch

New Bedford 30 Apr 1823

Hall & Marean
Baltimore

Your favr of 22 inst Enclosing my Account & a draft for 165.59/100 Dolls on Saml Rodman for the balance due me I did not receive till last evening - Not expecting you would remit I drew on you on the 19 inst for 175.11/100 Dolls. which I supposed was the balance due me - I find however your account is correct - the difference is made by postages 50 cts & by my charging you with 9.2/100 dolls. the Amt you received from Mr Thaxton for a box of Candles which you mention in your letter of 11th inst you have placed to my Cr. I therefore immediately Chd it to your A/c without referring to your A/c Sales but I now find on examining the Sales it is included - Your draft on me at sight for 175.11/100 dolls. payable in New York or N Bedford shall be paid - I regret this circumstance having taken place & hope it will not put you to any inconvenience -

Whenever there is any demand for Candles you will please inform me & I will make you a Shipment -

Very Truly Yr Frd.

Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 3 May. 1823

Jno G & Sam'l Whitehorne
Newport

, I have sent you per
Sloop Henry Capt West 12 Casks of Strain'd Oil
which is all Capt West can take, the whole of
it will be strain'd by next Tuesday & ready to send
to you -

Respectfully Yours
Wm J Russell

New Bedford 6 May 1823

Henry Grinnell

Annexed is Invoice of 44
Boxes Sperm Candles Shipped by Sloop Rodman
Wood Master, which you will please dispose
of to the best advantage. ¾ of the Net proceeds
please to the Ord of Wm K Rotch & Co and ¼ to Mr Ord
Very truly your frind

New Bedford 6 May 1823

E Hathaway

Annexed you have Invoice
of the Baggage Waggon of 50 Boxes Sperm Candles,
& the request of G. G & S. Hathaway, they not
having any on hand, called upon us to furnish
them. They are all Yours to the X
In haste Yours truly

New Bedford 16 May 1823

Elisha Hathaway
Boston

Enclosed is Invoices of 70 boxes Spurm Candles - 51 boxes Ditto & 38 boxes Spermaceti Cake - the 70 boxes includes 30 boxes of fives which you requested me to send to you, which you will not sell for less than 27 ℓ - the 51 boxes are the Candles which I mention'd to you had been to Rio Janeiro they have been repacked & are in good order if you can get 35 ℓ per ℔ you may dispose of them please 4/8ths of the nett pass to the ℅ of Jos. Rotch 3/8ths to the ℅ of W R Rotch No. 4 1/8 ℔ to my ℅ The 38 boxes of Cake you may sell at the Invoice price or ship it should you have an opportunity - C Grinnell & Listens making a shipment to Marseilles in his Brig it will then for you answer to ship it there

very truly &c
W J Russell

New Bedford 4 June 1823

Jno G & Sam'l Whitehorne
Newport

I have sent you per Sloop Henry Capt Ubert the balance of your Sperm Oil as per Statement annexed - There is about 6 bbls of tanght pres Oil belonging to you, which will answer to burn in the Summer months, but it may be improved some by boiling it over & straining it next Fall - if you wish it sent to you in its present state you will please inform me - You will observe I have been obliged to take two of my casks to put your Oil in, one of your casks not being safe - You may keep them Casks

me 5/ per bbl for them or send them back by the Henry & pay the freight on them. Your Candles will be made by the last of this Month. This Oil is dark colour'd but it will not injure its burning. it was the dirtiest Oil I have ever had to manufacture.

Your Ob. Sv.
W. T. Russell

New Bedford 7 June 1823

Caleb Hathaway
Phila.

Annexed is Invoice of 25 casts Sum. Oil 11 casts Caught pres. Oil shipped you Sloop Henry which you will dispose of to best advantage 3/4 ths of the nett proceeds place to the Cr. of W.R. Rotch & Co 3/4 ths to my Cr. Caught pres. Oil is generally considered of an inferior quality this has been boiled over & strained & as far as I have tried it I think it equal to any Sum. Oil. I wish it sold however for what it is. Your favr of 29th ult. with my Acct was duly rec'd. The Acct appears to be correct. I shall be much obliged by your sending me by the return of the Henry 100 pounds of Lump Sugar for my own use.

Respectfully Yr. Obd.
Wm. T. Russell

New Bedford 17 June 1823

Elisha Hathaway
Boston

I have taken the
liberty to draw on you this day at ten days
sight in favr Jos. Ricketson for 200 dolls. on
account of the Invoice of 51 boxes of Candles
sent you per Pomona on the 16th Ulto —
Mr Jos. Rotch being indebted to me for those
Candles requested I would draw on you &
order his half of the nett proceeds placed to my
Cr when they are sold. which you will accord-
ingly do — I shall then be credited with 3/8ths
of the Sales — This is done entirely to accommo-
date Mr Rotch — I gave Capt Hitch a note
to you for a bbl of Pot Ash — The bbl you sent
H & G is very good I hope you will be as
fortunate in Making choice of one for me —
very truly yr friend
Wm Russell

New Bedford 20 June 1823

I. P. Hutchinson
Lisbon

Your esteemed favor of 18 Jany
via Liverpool & 16 Feby per Brig Pathian are
received — The former enclosing a bill of Exchange
for 500 dolls. on David Sears Esqr of Boston for
your one half of Invoice of 100 Boxes Sperm Candles
shipped to you per Brig Pathian on our joint
Act. which bill was promptly paid — The latter
enclosing bill of Lading & Statement of the cost
of 3 half pipes & 10 Qr Casks Port Wine shipped
per Brig Pathian which has been received & is
sold at a small profit — The Candles will do
quite as well as I expected — I shall be in due
to make you another shipment by the first

opportunity – How would Spermaceti in Cakes put up in Candle boxes for Medicinal purposes answer in your Market –

Respectfully &c
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 16 Augt 1823

Jno G & Saml Whitehorne
Newport

Annexed is Invoice of 156 Boxes Sperm Candles sent you per Sloop Henry Capt West. which with 50 boxes sent you last Feby & 133/4 Bbls delivered Mr J B Rush makes the whole quantity the Oil produced which I received from you to Manufacture –
I trust they are dry enough to stand the heat of any climate & that they will give you satisfaction – I have also sent you by the Henry about 35 Gals. of Laughs prime Oil in a cask gueging 70 gals. which is the balance of all the Oil –
I shall be in Newport next week until then hand you my bill –

Respectfully &c
W T Russell

New Bedford 25 Augt. 1823

David Anthony
Providence

Annexed is Invoice of 6 Tierces 9 bbls Sum Oil sent per Sloop Henry Capt West which you will dispose of to best advantage 3/4 ths of the nett proceeds place to the C of W R Rotch & Co 1/4 th to my Cr. Your favor of 21 July covering a/c Sales of 9 Casks Sum Oil & 75 boxes Candles was duly rec'd they are correct & satisfactory.

I wish you would be more particular in collecting Money for Sales of our Oil & candles at the time it becomes due. It is not only a considerable loss & inconvenience to us but it is attended with some risk to you. for when a debt is not paid at the time it is due & no steps are taken to secure it. You must be aware you are accountable for it.

Respectfully your friend
W & J Russell

New Bedford 3 Augt. 1823

Elisha Hathaway
Boston

I have sent you per Sloop Bedford 6 Tierces taught first Oil which you will dispose of to best advantage. The nett proceeds place to the credit of Joseph Ricketson. The last shipment of Oil I made you for act of Mr Ricketson. The casks were requested to be filled up, which accounts for there being so much out.

Respectfully &
W & J Russell

New Bedford 5 Sept 1823

Alexander Blake
Charleston S.C

I request you will have the goodness to pay the nett proceeds of the Oil shipped to you last autumn to John Potter Esq^r & render him account Sales of the same

Respectfully yours
Wm J. Russell

New Bedford 5 Sept 1823

John Potter
of Charleston S.C.

We herewith hand you our power of attorney authorizing you to settle a demand we have against Messrs Blake & Keith of Charleston for Sales of 1373 gallons Sperma ceti Oil shipped to them last Autumn for which we have received no account Sales nor remittance - The amount you will receive from Mr Blake you will have the goodness to remit to Messrs Fish & Grinnell New York or Messrs Josiah Bradlee & C Boston as may be most convenient - Should there be any difficulty in effecting a settlement with Mr Blake you will take such steps as you may think will be most to our interest - with which we shall be satisfied - For your obliging offer to settle this business for us we feel much indebted - and are respectfully

Your Obt Servts
Wm J. Russell
Wm R Rotch & Co

sign'd

New Bedford 13 Sept 1873

Caleb Hathaway
Philadelphia

Annexed is Invoice of 18 tierces & 16 bbls Winter Oil shipped per Sloop Eliza Nicoll which you will sell on the best terms you can - 3/4 ths of the Net proceeds place to the credit of W R Rotch & Co & 1/4 to my Cr. If you think you can sell 50 bbls more of Winter Oil I will send it by the first vessel

I should like to have from 50 to 200 bbls tierces if you can purchase them at a price that will not make them cost over two cents per gallon deliver'd here - Capt Perry will take them free of freight to fill with water for ballast -

Respectfully Yr friend
W T Russell

New Bedford 16 Sept 1873

Elisha Hathaway
Boston

Annexed is Invoice of 8 Tierces & 12 bbls Sum Oil & 9 Tierces & 24 bbls Winter Oil shipped per Pomona which you will sell on the best terms you can the Net proceeds place 3/4 to Cr of W R Rotch & Co & 1/4 to my Cr - The N E Marine Insurance Co have a premium Note against me for $383,50 which is now due - if it is perfectly convenient you will do me a favor by taking it up -

very truly yr friend
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 7 Oct 1823

John Woodhead Esqr
New York

I have sent you per Sloop Experiment Capt Tabor three boxes Sperm Candles & one Keg of Sperm Oil by direction of John Potter Esqr of Charleston. Mark as per Margin

Respectfully &c
W T Russell

New Bedford 29 Oct. 1823

Caleb Hathaway
Philadelphia

Your favors of 30 ult to 21st inst were duly rec'd. I hope you will succeed in disposing of the Winter Oil before the season is past for the sale of it. I had rather you would sell it at even a more reduced price than to keep it over the Winter. You have done as well so far in your sales as I could expect.

I have this day drawn on you in favor Isa Rickerson at sight for 200 dolls. according to your offer. Our Bank has now come to the conclusion not to take drafts on Philadelphia at a discount of 1/4 pr ct. I should therefore be much obliged if you would remit the amount you may feel willing to advance on the property I have in your hands to Henry Grinnell New York when it will be drawing interest & I can use it at any time when I may need it without paying 1/4 pr ct.

Respectfully Yours
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 9 Nov. 1823

Elisha Hathaway
Boston

I have sent you per Sloop Pomona 9 boxes Sperm Candles. which you are at liberty to sell at 26 ¢ or to ship to some foreign port as you may think will be most to our interest. I limit you at 26 ¢ as I think they will command that price in the course of the Winter - There has a large quantity of Spermaceti been bought up within a few weeks in this place to ship to France -

very truly yr's
Wm J Russell

New Bedford 31 Jany 1824

Joseph Grinnell
New York

Enclosed is your act as it stands on Moses & Grinnells books with Ship Parnassus balance due from you $737.86. which is transferred on his books to the debit of Fish & Grinnell - You will please credit the Parnassus act with this amt say $737.86 & close her a/c by transfering the bal. to my a/c - Your proportion of Ship Parnassus outfit $951.22 was due as near as I can arrange it 18 mo 9. 1823 - Moses was agent for the Ship & all the a/cs are entered on his books when he left home I was obliged to assume them as his agent & still continue the a/cs on his books - We are all as well as usual &c -

W J Russell

New Bedford 11 Feby 1824

Peter Grinnell & Son
Providence

I was surprised last evening to receive an account from you charging me with a balance of 23.20/100 dolls. — Your act was balanced in my books in July 1822 — & I never expected to hear any thing more about it — It appears by your act this bal. is made by an outstanding debt for Oil sold Olney Robinson 29th May 1822 for $2.53/100 diff. of interest — If you choose to give your customers a credit of two years it must be at your own risk — I can neither allow the debt due from Robinson nor the interest — I consider the account as settled when I drew on You the 29 July 1822 for $315.20/100 which was the balance due me at that time according to your Account Sales —

I am respectfully
your Obt Serv
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 14 Feby 1824

Joseph Grinnell
New York

Annexed is Invoice of 11 Casks Winter Oil manufactured for your a/c from Head Matter shipped per Sloop Rockets — This is the whole of the Oil prepared from the Head Matter except about 2 bbls. which is in a 4 bbl cask & which I shot. last to obtain a fill with the Winter Oil from the body — I commenced preparing your body Oil to day & if we work night & day I shall be able to finish it & send it by the Experiment the last of next week — Altho' you will not get your Oil so soon as I expected yet there has been no time lost in manufacturing it — The weather has been so mild it could not be done before — yrs truly
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 15 Feby 1824

James Hall Esq
Pres. of the N E Marine Ins Co
Boston

I wish to have insurance made on Ship Alliance Capt Alex Coffin — I have a letter from Capt Coffin dated 4th April last, at the Sandwich Islands — He informs me he has 550 bbls Sperm Oil. then about ten months out — that he should stop then two days to recruit his Ship & then proceed on to the Westward towards the coast of Japan — & with a little good luck he should fill his Ship in Sept (meaning last Sept) The only observation he makes about the Ship is that she is tight & sails very fast — The Ship is 234 tons & will bring about 1500 bbls — She has three boats crews — If you choose to take fifteen hundred dollars on her cargo at two & an half per cent you may send me a policy —

Respectfully &c
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 12 March 1824

Peter Bacot Esq
Charleston S. C.

We have received a/c Sales from Mr Alex Black of 15 casks Sperm Oil & a draft on Messrs Seth Russell & Sons of this place for the net pds. amounting to $683.96/100. after deducting 83.40/100 dolls for a pretended claim of A D King (one of the purchasers) on a/c of the quality of the Oil — There still remains in the hands of Mr Black 7 casks Sperm Oil containing as per Invoice 436/2 Nett gals for which he offers 40 cts per gal. 6 Mos. Cr. — This is much up the value & besides if he should take it we are fearful we should never get our pay — he has managed our business so bad as to have no confidence

is him - We have now to request the favor of you to take the Oil out of his hands & sell it on the best terms you can use at 40 cts or less - We are anxious to have the business closed & to effect it are willing to make a sacrifice - Mr Black has commenced a suit against Mr Ring on our behalf who claims 20 cts per gal. on 417 gals. - This suit was unauthorized on our part & when Mr Black informed us of his having instituted a suit we wrote him to withdraw it & compromise the business as well as he could - We have since been informed by our Mutual friend Mr Potter that Mr Black told him when Rings note became due it was inconvenient for him to pay it - & he lent Ring the money to take it up at the Bank & after this Ring objected to the quality of the Oil - If this is the fact we of course have nothing to do with the suit - Mr Black must prosecute it for his own use & must pay us the $83.40/100 which he now withholds - We would also state that the net proceeds of the Sales Mr Black has rendered us was about ten mos before he remitted the money & he has not allowed us any interest - We have now laid before you all the circumstances of this business & must beg the favor of you to compromise as well as you can without a law suit - The money you will receive you will please remit to Mr Henry Grinnell New York to the credit of Wm T Russell after satisfying yourself for the trouble we have given you -

We are respectfully
Yr Obt Servts
Wm Rotch & Co
Wm T. Russell

Signed

New Bedford 7th Apr. 1824

David Anthony
Providence.

I have sent you per Sloop Henry a few casks of Strained Oil as per Invoice which you will sell on the best terms you can 3/4 ths of the net proceeds place to the Cr of W R Rotch & Co 1/4 th to my Cr. If you can get 40 cs for this it will encourage me to send more. The quality is exellent & you may safely recommend it as such. Your last bills of Oil is now due. I would not draw without hearing from you. I request you will give me that liberty by return of mail. W & R Rotch & Co request me to ask what amt they may draw on you for.

Respectfully &c
W J Russell

New Bedford 13th Apr 1824

Elisha Hathaway
Boston

Annexed is Invoice of 42 casks Strained Oil shipped per Pomona, which you will sell to the best advantage. 3/4 ths of the net proceeds place to the Cr of W R Rotch & Co 1/4 th to my Cr. The quality of this Oil we think is rather superior of the kind & will bear praising.

very truly yr frd
Wm J. Russell

New Bedford 10 Dec 1824

Benja Russell Esqr
Boston

I wish to becom a subscriber for the Centinel. & request you to send me the next number & continue to send it till I order it. Stop it —

yours respectfully
W J Russell

New Bedford 10 Dec 1824

Caleb Nathaway
Phila.

I have rec'd your a/c Sales of 23 half bbls Winter Oil with your esteemed favor of 3d inst. The Sales are correct & satisfactory — I am sorry to hear there is any decline in the price of Oil with you — but presume it will be only temporary — Oil in the raw state is rising — & the manufactured Oil cannot be afforded at present prices much longer — I shall not have any more Oil or Candles to send you before next Spring — I have a large stock to manufacture this winter & can keep you plentifully supplied next year should your Market offer sufficient encouragement —

If you can purchase Casks that have been filled with Sperm Oil — iron bound — & in good order at 2 cents per gal. or less, I should like to have as many as you can purchase not exceeding 300 bbls — I shall not want them before Spring perhaps you may be able to pick up that quantity at my limits in the course of the winter — if so ship them to me next Spring when there is a vessel coming direct — Please forward my account at the close of the year — & if there is any Sales not completed let them go into next Years a/c when there is any thing due me please remit

it to Henry Grinnell New York - I will thank you to subscribe for the National Gazette for me - if any thing must be paid in advance please pay it & charge it to my acct -

Respectfully &c
W T Russell

New Bedford 12 Dec 1824

John Harrisson
Charleston

I have rec'd your letter of 27th Nov informing me you had remitted to Henry Grinnell New York 500 dolls. to be placed to my credit - I have not yet heard from Mr Grinnell but presume I shall receive his acknowledgment of the receipt of it in a few days - In reply to your enquiries respecting Oil & candles I have to state that I have no candles on hand, nor is there but very few in N Bedford if I had them to send to you I could not afford to deliver them in Charleston at less than 34 cts - I have lately had them sold in New York at 32 to 33 cts -
Good Winter Oil is also very scarce just at this time - the old stock having been sold off, & the weather has not been cold enough to make any this month -
I have not a single barrel on hand - I shall begin to make some next month & can then supply you should there be any opportunity to send it to you - I have a large stock to manufacture this winter & can supply you with any quantity of Oil or Candles next Spring you may want - I am pleased to hear of your success in selling Oil & hope it may continue to be a profitable business to you - should you want any more Oil this Winter you will please write to me & I will send it to you on as favourable terms as it can be bought of any manufacturer in this place & of the best quality - without regard to

W T Russell

New Bedford 20 Janʸ. 1825

Elisha Hathaway
Boston

I have an opportunity of making a very good purchase of Sperm Oil in the natural state in company with Wm W & Thos. Irwin. but neither of us can afford to pay the cash for it. The object of this communication is to solicit your assistance to procure for us $7000 for one year at 5 per ct. on our joint security to enable us to make this purchase. Their standing as well as my own is well known to you & with your representation of it we flatter ourselves you will be able to get that sum for us at 5 per cent while money is so plenty as it now is. We are very desirous to have an answer from you by Saturdays mail if possible. if it is delayed longer than that may loose the opportunity of making the purchase. at any rate do not defer an answer longer than Monday. If you cannot get this Money at 5 per cent perhaps the may be induced to give six.

I am very truly yr friend
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 23 Janʸ. 1825

John Harrisson
Charleston S. C.

I duly rec'd your favor of the 1st on the subject of Oil. The winter has been so mild up to this time that none of the Manufacturers here have attempted to make Winter Oil. & there is not a barrel of first quality in the place. & I fear the weather will not be cold enough to make any short of one month from this. I can send you 50 bbls about the first of March & perhaps a little earlier the price of such ~~Oil~~ Oil as you want will be 58 cts per gal. I will warrant it to be of the best quality & white. or I can send you pale winter

Oil at 52 cs – Oil in the crude State has risen
15 cs per gal. since you left here – it is now worth
60 cs – & all the Manufacturers are calculating to get
65 cs for their Winter Oil next Fall – it is now selling
in N York at 53 to 55 cs but there is none of first
quality there – I should be willing to sell such
at 52 cs deliv'd here – I am thus particular to
mention these circumstances under the impression
that 8 cs per gal. more than you paid me last Fall
would seem a high to you – as you would not be
aware of the rise of Oil in the crude State – & that
you might perhaps think I wished to extort a
high price from you – There is no vessel bound
from here to Charleston & it is not probable there
will be any this winter – Your Oil therefore must
be sent by the way of New York – You will
have sufficient time after the receipt of this &
before I can make any Winter Oil to write me
whether I shall make you a shipment by the
way of New York, if there should be no vessel
going direct & the quantity I shall send – To
prevent any difficulty about the price if you
should be dissatisfied with it I will leave
it to any Manufacturer here to determine it
when you return home – I shall strictly observe
your caution not to expose your prospects in business
& you may be assured you will always find me
disposed to befriend you –

I have delivered your Message to W P Grinnell
respecting the butter – I also called at your house
& told them you was well & Mrs Harrison requested
me to say when I wrote you that she & her
family were well –

Very truly yr frd

Wm J. Russell

New Bedford 24 Janʸ. 1825

Elisha Dathaway
Boston

Your favor of 22 inst I rec'd last evening by Mr Gray & a duplicate of the same by this evenings Mail - by which I learn the N E Mar. Insur Co will loan W W & J Swain & myself 7000 dolls. at 5½ per ct per. ann. which terms we accept of, and have accordingly purchas'd the Oil this Morning - The person of whom we have purchas'd the Oil will not need the money short of about ten days & we wish to defer taking the loan of the Insur Co till we are called upon to pay it - I presume this will make no difference to them - I have rather the money should pass through your hands - & if you have no objection I will inclose our Note to you & draw on you for the amount -

I am greatly obliged to you for your services in assisting me to this loan & shall be happy to return the favor whenever I can serve you in any way in N Bedford -

I am very truly yr friend
Wm J. Russell

New Bedford 1 Feby. 1825

Elisha Dathaway
Boston

I now enclose W W & J. Swains my Note for $7000 in favor of the New England Mar. Ins Co & have drawn on you for the same Amt this day in favor W W & J Swain at sight - I have left the date of the note in blank, in hope they will consent to fill the date at the time they will pay the money, & I wish you would use your endeavours to get a part of the time at least remitted I really do not think we are under obligations to give a note & pay back at the 24 at the time you applied for the money - Yours &c W. J Russell

New Bedford 3 Feby. 1825

Caleb Hathaway
Philadelphia

Your favor of 27th ultimo with account Sales of 22 casks Straits Oil is recd & the Sales are correct & satisfactory - I am fearful I shall not get as many barrels as I want & have therefore concluded to take the wine barrels you propose at 70 cs. although I consider it a high price for them. if they are not sold you will please engage them - & send them to me whenever there is a vessel coming direct - I shall not need them before the last of March - please continue to collect all the Casks you can find at 2 cs per gal. and do not refuse to take any which are a little superior at 2¼ cs.

Sperm Oil in the crude state continues to advance in price, it has risen 15 cs. per gal. since last Sum consequently manufactured Oil must rise before long.

Respectfully Yours
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 22 Feby. 1825

Bennett & Davis
Charleston S.C.

I duly rec your favor of 17th ulto. covering acct Sales of 7 casks Oil and Geo. Gibbon & Co's draft on Thos. Parsons Boston for the net proceeds $139.99 - The Sales are correct ~~& satisfactory~~ & I am happy that you have brought this business to a close - I must request the favor of you to press Mr Black for the amt he has obtain'd a judgment against Mr King, say 83. 40/00 dolls & remit the Sum to me as soon as convenient, or to Mr Henry Grinnell New York

I am respectfully &c
Wm T Russell

New Bedford 5 March 1825

David Anthony
Providence

If you can purchase
Tierces that have been filled with Spermaceti-
oil bounce & in good order at two cents per gallon
or less & good Oil barrels @ 55 cs a piece, I should
like to have as many as you can pick up in your
Town - Send me what you can buy immediately,
by Capt West - & continue to collect all you can
get at those prices & send them as you have
opportunities -

I shall have some Sperm Oil
next Month - if you can get 50 cs for it I will
send you some - I shall keep it until it will
fetch that price -

Respectfully yr friend
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 26 March 1825

Henry Grinnell
New York

Enclosed is an Invoice of
12 casks of Winter Oil on board Sloop Experiment
which I beg the favor of you to ship by the
first good vessel to Charleston, for account of
John Harrison at as low freight as possible -
You will please get the Oil insured to the Amt
of the Invoice & charge the prem. to Mr Harrison
the payment of which I will be accountable for -
write him by the vessel that takes the Oil
& enclose my Invoice & a bill of Lading - also
write him by mail advising him by what vessel
you have shipped the Oil & of the insurance -
I shall be glad if you can avoid casting the
Oil by making the vessel or the other loads

as it will be apt to make it leak — This is a troublesome consignment without profit which Com[missio]n Merchants must sometimes expect —

Your Brother
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 26 March 1825

John Harrisson
Charleston

Annexed is Invoice of 12 casks Winter Oil shipped for your account per Sloop Experiment to New York to be reshipped from thence to Charleston by Mr Henry Grinnell I have instructed Mr Grinnell to get it insured from New York & to write you as soon as he had shipt it by Mail & also by the vessel he ships it by. I do enclose a bill of lading & copy of my Invoice — I have put this Oil as low if not lower than any manufacturer in Town dos la sell. & I would not sell any more at the same price — I have sent you the best I have & I trust the quality will suit you — I have no Sum Oil on hand nor is there any Manufacturer who has 300 Bbls there will be a plenty the last of next Month — it is too early to strain yet — I shall have some by that time, but as that may be too late for you I shall not send any unless I hear from you again — W T Grinnell has acknowledged receipt of a remittance of $500 from you — There was a balance due on your note for $969 of $468.51 — I have paid your note to Bedford Com[missio]n Ins[urance] $22.88 — which left a balance due you of $8.61 which I have paid your wife & delivered up the note to her agreeable to your request —

Your family is in good health, Mrs H says she has not had a letter from you in five weeks

very truly yours
W T Russell

New Bedford 4 May 1835

John Harrisson
Charlestown S.C.

Annexed is Invoice of 6 casks Sperm & 9 Casks Winter Oil shipped via New York - You will perceive I have sent you only half the quantity you ordered in your letter of 16 Apr for two reasons, firstly because I suppose you expected to get this at the same price as the former parcel & secondly because I do not like to sell any more oil at the prices this is ch? at - The same quantity of Winter & Sperm Oil could not be bought here at the prices I have charged - Some ask 80 & some 85 for this best Winter Oil - I have rec'd 20 empty Oil Casks per Capt Bowlin (one was lost over board for which I have allowed you $39.58 - I have paid $15.62 freight & have $23.96 which I have handed Mrs Harrisson -

W DR

New Bedford 9 May 1835.

Elisha Hathaway
Boston

My note to the N England Mar. Insurance Co for 2000 dolls becomes due soon & I should like to have the money another year - will you have the goodness to call at the Office & enquire if they have any objection to it - If not pay them the interest which it becomes due & charge it to my Acct I have not my books by me & do not recollect the exact date of the note -

It is a long time since I have had the pleasure of hearing from you on the subject of the Oil Market - We have been aware that Sperm Oil would rise & have kept our Stock on hand we have not shipped a bbl to Market for sale since last fall - Next fall

(over)

we shall be ready to sell – I have about 600 bbls of dark Sperm Oil which I want to get clear of & which I suppose must be sold at an inferior price on account of the colour – it is otherwise good Oil – I will send you 20 or 30 bbls by the Pomona next trip or two –

Very truly yr frd.
Wm T Russell

New Bedford 18 May 1835

Elisha Hathaway
Boston

I send you by the Pomona 45 casks dark Oil, as per Invoice – This Oil was coloured by being burnt when it was first tried out at sea – I have used it in my house & find it burns as well as any Straits Oil I have had – But as it is very high colour'd I expect it must be sold at something less than the Market price –

My Note for $2000 which I wrote to you respecting. I find is due at the Suffolk Bank on the 25 ~~inst~~ next Month, as you mentioned in your letter of 11th inst instead of the 26 May. I am [illegible] – at the time I wrote to you I had not my books by me to refer to – which will account for the mistake – It would be an accommodation to renew the Note another year, & I shall be obliged if you will propose it, when you think it is the most favourable moment – If I must pay it I should wish to have ten days notice of it –

Very truly your friend
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 8 Sept 1825

Joseph Grinnell
New York

I have just got B Rodmans
Note discounted for Ship Panaspos cargo of
Oil — I wish you to draw Mr. F & Co's Act
against Ship Panaspo with the Interest & draw
on me at sight for the Amt — I shall be
due the Owners about 2600 dolls. allowing the
Outfits to be 7000 dolls — Your 3/16 ths will be
487 dolls. which Amt is subject to your order.
I had rather you would draw on me at sight
for it — I shall get the Panaspos bills both
in the course of a fortnight & shall then make
a final settlement — Tell Moses I have paid
Wm Rotch Jr 325 dolls. for his 1/8 of 5th. Panaspos
~~outfits~~ earnings —

with Much regard &c
W T Russell

New Bedford 14 Sept 1825

Josiah Bradlee & Co
Boston

I have rec'd your favor
of 12th inst annexing Sales of 40 casks Sperm Oil
which are correct. — I regret that you
have sold Winter Oil at 75 cs — when 80 cs might
as easily be obtained — I have called on all
the Manufacturers this morning & they all say
they will not sell their Winter Oil at less than
80 cs — If therefore it will not bring that price
in your Market, you must not expect to have
any more N Bedford Oil — The Oil which I
sent you per Ponona you will please hold
at 80 cs.

Respectfully yr. frs
Wm T. Russell &

New Bedford 14 Sept 1825

Elisha Hathaway Esq
Boston

Your favor of 12th inst
I rec'd last evening - I regret Mr Bradlee
has sold Winter Oil @ 75 cs. when 80 cs might
as easily be obtained & it gives great dissatis-
faction to the Manufacturers here - I have
called on all of them this morning & shown
them your letter - they say they will not sell
their Winter Oil at less than 80 cs - If there-
fore it will not bring that price in your
market we must stop shipping it - The
Winter Oil I have sent you, you will please
hold at 80 cs.

Very truly yr's
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 16 Sept 1825

David Anthony
Providence

Annexed is Invoice
of 60 casks Winter Oil & 10 casks Strain'd Oil, sent
you per Sloop Henry Capt West - The Winter
Oil I request you to hold at 80 cs & the strain'd
at 70 cs - 3/4ths of the Net proceeds please to the
credit of W B Rotch & C & 1/4th to my Cr -
If you can buy Oil Casks @ 2 cs. per gal. the
gauge not exceeding 70 gals I should like to have
as many as you can buy -

Respectfully &c
Wm T. Russell

23 Sept 1825

Josiah Bradlee & Co
Boston

I withdraw my limits on the Winter Oil best you - You are at liberty to do the best you can with it -

Respectfully &c
Wm T Russell

with the same offer to E Nathaway & Co

26 Sept 1825

Samuel C Bunting
Philadelphia

Annexed is Invoice of 50 Casks Winter Oil, which you will dispose of to best advantage - 3/4ths of the net proceeds place to the credit of W R Botch & Co & 1/4 th to my credit - This Oil is not quite so light coloured as the former lot, but in other respects equally as good - It is pressed from head matter

Respectfully Yours
Wm T Russell

28 Sept 1825

Elisha Nathaway & Co
Boston

Annexed is Invoice of 40 Casks Winter Oil sent you per Sloop Traveller which you will sell to best advantage - 3/4 ths of the net proceeds place to the credit of W R Botch & Co & 1/4 th to my credit - I will thank you to send me 400 lbs of Candle Paper, the best you can get by first Packet, I have heard Wm Parker & Co Stock & have some which is good - The kind of which you sent me a sample will answer if there is none better -

Yr frd &c Wm T. Russell

29 Sept. 1825

Henry Grinnell
New York

Annexed is Invoice of
40 Casks Winter Oil sent you per Sloop
Experiment, which you will sell to best
advantage - 3/4 ths of the net proceeds plan to
the credit of W R Both & Co & 1/4 th to my credit
Yours &c
Wm T Russell

1st October 1825

Elisha Hathaway & Co
Boston

Annexed is Invoice
of 40 Casks Winter Oil sent you per Sloop
Pomona, which you will sell to best advan-
tage 3/4 ths of the net proceeds plan to the
credit of W R Both & Co & 1/4 th to my credit
Respectfully &c
Wm T. Russell

10 October 1825

Henry Grinnell
New York

I send you by Sloop
Ann 20 Tierces Sperm Oil which I request
you to ship to Field & Morgan New Orleans
in your name - order them to sell it for Cash
immediately & remit the proceeds to you - then
shall be no difficulty about your Cont.
It was in good order when it left here, but if it
is carted it will want examining again - The
Oil is light coloured & very good quality
Your Brother
Wm T Russell

17 Oct. 1825

Saml C Bunting
Philadelphia

Annexed is Invoice of 60 Casks Winter Oil & 50 boxes Spurm Candles sent you per Sloop Maria Capt Stott - which you will sell to best advantage - 3/4 ths of the net proceeds please to the credit of W R Roberts & Co & 1/4 th to my Cr. - This will probably be the last shipment I shall be able to make you this season

Yours Mail

Respectfully &c
W T Russell

17 Oct. 1825

Saml C Bunting
Philadelphia

Enclosed is Bill of Lading of 60 Casks Winter Oil & 50 boxes Spurm Candles sent you per Sloop Maria Capt Stott - the freight of which is to be paid here as expressed in the bill of lading - The Invoice I have forwarded by mail -

Please send me by the return of the Maria 12 bbls of Roxbro' Flour - 2 Flour bbls of Lump Sugar & about 50 lbs of brown Lump Sugar & two half bbls of Buck wheat Flour - If it is not too early for drie peaches please send me about three bushels - This articles are for W R R & Co & my family - You will please be particular to have them of good quality

your prices -

Yours Maria

W T Russell

New Bedford 5 Nov. 1825

David Anthony
Providence

I send you per Sloop Henry Capt Wash 50 boxes Sperm Candles which you will sell to best advantage — 3/4 th of the net proceeds place to the credit of W R Rotch & Co 1/4 th to my credit —

I withdraw my limits on the Oil sent you this Fall — You are at liberty to sell it at the Market Price — I should like to hear from you by the return of the Henry what Oil you have sold & what the prospect of selling Oil & Candles with you this Winter — As I am willing to make you further shipments whenever the prospect will warrant it

Respectfully Your friend
Wm J Russell

New Bedford 9 Nov. 1825

Richard G Howland
Baltimore

Annexed is Invoice of 60 Casks Winter Oil & 100 boxes Sperm Candles sent you per Sch Jane Capt Tripp & enclosed is bill of Lading of the same — which you will sell to best advantage — 3/4 th of the net proceeds place to the credit of W R Rotch & Co 1/4 th to my credit — You will find this Oil to be light coloured & of good quality & whether you sell it for Winter or Sum Oil, it is of no consequence — if you can get the Invoice price I shall be satisfied — The Candles are very white & dry — I will warrant them sufficiently dry to ship to the warmest climates —

Respectfully &c
Wm J Russell

New Bedford 9 Nov. 1825

Elisha Tathaway Esq
Boston

Annexed is Invoice of 92 Casks
Pale Straits Oil on board Sloop
Pomona which you are at liberty to sell at the
Market Price — 3/4ths of the net proceeds place to
the credit of W R Botch & Co 1/4 th to my credit —
I am nearly out of Candle paper & will thank
you to send me as soon as you can procure it
400 lbs — I hope you will be able to get better than
the last you sent me — if not that must answer —

Respectfully Yr Friend
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 16 Nov. 1825

Fish & Grinnell
New York

Annexed is Invoice of 21
Casks Winter Oil sent you per Sloop Experiment.
3/4ths of the net proceeds place to the credit of
W R Botch & Co 1/4 th to my credit — This is Some
of my best Oil — You will find it very light
coloured & of good quality —

Respectfully &c
Wm T Russell

12 Dec 1825

Elisha Hathaway & Co
Boston

Your favor of 9 Inst advising Sales of 40 Casks Whale I have rec'd — There is an error in casting 2 Casks sold C C Cotting — 147 gals @ 75 cts is carried out $116.25 — should be $110.25 — dif. $6 in your favr — when this is rectified our Rotch Hog 3/4 ths will be $1033.21 — My 1/4 $344.40 —

I am obliged to call on you again for more Candle paper — please send me by the Baggage wagon 200 lbs & by the packet 300 lbs — also by the packet a cask of Potash —

My Note dated 25 June at 6 months in favr of G Russell for $2000. becomes due at the Suffolk Bank the 28th of this Month — I have to request the favor of you to pay it when due — although you are not in funds for that amt yet you have now the Bulk of property in your hands — I shall send you by the Pomona 100 bbl. Whale Oil & 100 boxes Candles — the quality of the Oil is such that I have no doubt you can dispose of it this Winter

Very truly yr friend
Wm T. Russell

25 Dec. 1825.

Richard G. Fowland
Baltimore

I have shipped on board
Sloop Travellen Capt Crowell 82 Casks Winter
Oil gauging 8385 gals. & 250 boxes Sperm Candles —
The Oil I was compelled to send mostly in Casks
for the want of Tierces to stave it. Both the Oil & Candles
are of the same quality as the last shipment.
If you can make Sales of the Candles or a considerable
part of them from the vessel at 36 1/2 cts. you had better
do it. I will take the liberty to caution you, to be particular
to whom you sell in these critical times, so as not
to make any bad debts. There is about 50 Bbls of Oil &
100 boxes Candles on board the Travellen besides mine.
I write you per mail that you might avail yourself
of making Sale previous to arrival, should you have
an opportunity. If convenient you will oblige
me by advancing $4000 on the receipt of this Shipment
& remitting $3000 per draft of W. R. Roth & Co. & $1000 on my
account to Fish & Grinnell New York.
The Travellen will be ready to sail on the 27th inst.

with much respect
your friend
Wm. C. Russell

New Bedford 14 Janʸ. 1826

Fish Grinnell & Co
New York

Enclosed is Invoice of 54 casks Winter Oil sent you per Sloop Ann. it is of the same quality as I have sent you before, & the last I have on hand — 3/4 ths of the nett proceeds place to the credit of Wm R Rotch & Co 1/4 th to my credit —

Also is enclosed Invoice of 168 boxs Candles on board the Ann belonging to Jos. Rickerson — I am directed by him to request you to sell them to best advantage & to account to him for the proceeds —

I found a Bills head on board Sloop Hudson which I presume you sent for Ship Timoleon, & have accordingly taken it — it suits exactly —

Very truly your friend
Wm F. Russell

19 Janʸ. 1826

Richard G Haviland
Baltimore

Your favor of 12 inst informing of the arrival of the Traveller & that you could not at present make any advances I have received. Since writing you last Wm R Rotch & Co. have concluded to send their Barque Elizabeth to Baltimore to load with Flour for S America & will therefore want all the funds they can realize from Oil sent you. For that purpose, in the course of three or four weeks probably you can accommodate them by that time. — They will write you soon & inform you to whom they want the money paid over to —

with much respect
Wm F. Russell

22 Janʸ. 1826

Elisha Nathaniel & Co
Boston

I am informed by Messrs Wm R Rich & Co. that by their request you will place to my credit as the 24th of this month 3655. 8/100 Dollars - This sum I have appropriated to pay my half of a note for 7000 dolls. with one years interest at 5 1/2 pr ct per an. - given to N England Marine Insurᵉ Co dated 24 Janʸ. 1825 - signed jointly by Wm R & Thos Swain & myself - I request the favor of you to pay on half of the note say 3500 dolls with interest on the day it becomes due - it will exceed the amt due from W R R & Co about 37 dolls. which I presume you will have no objection to pay - Mr Jno Swain will make arrangements to pay their half when due -

with much respect
Your friend
Wmˢ T. Russell

22 Janʸ. 1826

John Harrison
Charleston S. Carolina

I have recᵈ your favor of 6th inst informing me you had remitted Henry Grinnell of New York four hundred dollars for my account - I have just received a letter from him acknowledging the receipt of the same -

I request that in future you will make your remittances to Fish Grinnell & Co - As Grinnell having joined that house on the first day of this year will not transact any more business in his individual name -

The Charleston Courier you sent me came to hand & your advertisement made a good deal of sport - I would caution you not to run the old man too hard - you have more

got the weather gage of him & it will be your
policy to keep quiet, lest he should come
out with another advertisement against you —

In consequence of the embarrassments
at Nantucket, Oil in the raw state has fallen
a little, but manufactured Oil although dull
of sale maintains former prices, except in some
instances, it has been forced off by Nantucket
folks who were in great want of money at some-
thing less than market prices — Our large stock
of Winter Oil which we had on hand when you
was here is all gone — I shall begin to manufac-
ture the new stock in a few days & expect some
of it will be as white as that I sold you last
fall — If any alteration takes place in the
price of Oil I shall inform you of it im-
mediately — The Nantucket banks have not
yet resumed payment, but have given out
word that they will in a few days — I am
inclining to think they will, but at the same
time I should not like to take their paper —

I called to see your family yesterday, they
were all well — with much regard
Your friend
Wm T. Russell

30 January 1826

Fish Grinnell & Co
New York

I have taken the liberty to draw a draft on you dated 27 Jan.y at four months after date in favr of W B Rotch & Co for 1600 dolls. — Before the time comes round you will have remittances from Rich.d G Howland of Baltimore to the amount of about 2000 dolls. & also a remittance from Sam.l C Bunting of Phil.a of about 1000 dolls — which with the property I have in your hands will more than pay this draft & the balance of your account against me — This money I wanted to pay a note which became due to day. I expected to have had the means from R G Howland, but rec.d a letter a few days since from him stating that having but a small capital, he could not make advances on consignments, while money was so scarce in Balt.e that men in good credit were obliged to pay exhorbitant interest — Under these circumstances I thought you would be willing to accept my draft — that I shall have abundant means to meet the payment of it's you may be assured —

Respectfully Yr Frnd & Obt.t Servt
Wm T. Rotch

31st Jan.y 1826

Elisha Hathaway & Co
Boston

I send you Invoice of 30 Casks dark Winter Oil & 15 Casks Chain Oil, on board Sloop Bedford — The Winter Oil was prepared from head matter & is equal to any I have sent you except in colour, but this consequence of its being dark I suppose must be sold at a reduced price — It has been exposed several days to the cold weather & was a little chilled when sent on board the vessel — This is all the

Oil remaining of last years stock — 3/4 Cts of the net proceeds of plaints to the credit of Wm Bobbs & 3/4 th to my credit — I shall also send you by the Bedford 100 boxes candles belonging to Jos Burton of my manufacture

I duly rec'd your favor of 24th inst I am much obliged for your attention in paying my draft of the Note of N & Man. Insur Co —

Very truly your friend
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 5 Feby 1826

Jon'a Shoemaker
Philadelphia

I have received your letter enclosing your draft on Bourne & Hosbrook for 98.38/100 dolls. dated 23 Jan'y at 60 days after date — which has been accepted & when due shall be remitted to you — I offered to pay it now by discounting the interest — but not being authorized I could not do it —

It would give me pleasure to make consignments to you, but as my present correspondent in your city has given satisfaction to me, I could not with any propriety withdraw my business from him at present — but at some future time perhaps may find it to my interest to divide my consignments —

Oil at present your market offers no inducements for shipments of Oil & Candles —

Respectfully your friend
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 10 Feby. 1826.

John R Harwood
Norfolk

Annexed is Invoice of 50 boxes Spermaceti Candles, sent you per Sloop Pomona Capt Crowell, which you sell to best advantage - 3/4 Ins of the net proceeds plan to the credit of J & W R Roth & Co 1/4 Th to my credit -

Capt Crowell intends purchasing a cargo of Corn in Norfolk & will want funds there - if you should sell the Candles for Cash before he leaves you will please pay the net proceeds to him -

If you should not sell the Candles immediately you will oblige us by advancing him 225 dolls on account of them - If you would like to receive consignments of Sperm Oil & Candles I shall be happy to send as much as you think you can dispose of -

Respectfully your friend
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 21 Feby. 1826

Josiah Bradlee Esq
Boston

I drew on you yesterday at 60 days after date in favor J & W R Roth & Co for 400 dolls - on acct of the last Sale of Oil which you will please accept when presented & charge to my account - As my account with you has not been made balanced for some time you will oblige me if you will send it to me as soon as convenient -

Respectfully Yours
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 2 March 1826

Samuel C Bunting
Philadelphia

I duly rec'd your favor of 11th ult. to recommending a shipment of Sperm Candles – I have accordingly put on board Schr Betty Franklin Capt Gibbs 200 boxes – viz 150 Fours – 5 Fives – 30 Short fives & 15 Short Sixes – The quality is quite equal to any I have sent you – I wish you to close our Sales of Winter Oil before the season is past, unless prices should go so low as to make a sacrifice –

If it should be convenient for you to make further advances, you will oblige me by remitting to Fish Grinnell & Co the amt you are willing to advance –

Respectfully your friend
Wm Z Ricketson

The Betty Franklin will be ready to sail after morrow, by her I shall send Invoice & Bill of Lading – WZR –

New Bedford 6 March 1826

Capt William Hammond
Care of C Hathaway & Co Boston

I rec'd your letter dated Buenos Ayres 10 Dec informing me, that in a gale of wind the Alliance struck her bottom on the outer bars, & beat several hours which caused her to leak very bad – you had called a survey on her & they had condemned her as unworthy of repair. That you should purchase bills on the United States to the amount of all your funds & take passage for Boston in Brig Damon – as you may be daily expected in Boston I write this to

must you then – & be request you should your bills be on Boston or any of the neighbouring towns to leave them with Elisha Dathaway & Co to collect – I hope that your protest & all your papers will be clear, so that there will be no difficulty with the underwriters – If any questions are asked about the Ship, be guarded in your answers, & be careful to say nothing that will jeopardize the insurance –
The Ship is insured for $6000 – your family is well & your friends generally – hoping to have the pleasure of seeing you by the hand very soon

Remain yr friend
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 6 March 1826

Elisha Dathaway & Co
Boston

I enclose a letter for Capt Wm Hammond, who may be expected daily hence at Boston in Brig Benian from Buenos Ayres, which please deliver him as soon as he arrives – Capt H. has written me, to charge purchase bills on the United S to the amt of all his funds & some will perhaps be on Boston or the neighbouring towns – I have entrusted him to hand answers to you – I request you will have the goodness to get them accepted & collect them when due –

Wm T Russell

New Bedford 7 March 1826

John Harrison
Charleston

From what you wrote Mr Harrison I concluded you would want Sperm Oil immediately & have therefore sent you 8 Tierces as per annexed Invoice - it goes to the care of Fish Grinnell & Co & I have ordered them to get it insured - You mention you will want Sperm Oil & Sperm Candles let me know what quantity & I will send it - My price at present for Sperm Oil is 65 cs - Candles 35 cs - Oil has fallen as you will perceive by my prices - There is no other cause for it than the embarrassments at Nantucket - There is deposited in this place than there has been for several years & prices must advance next Fall -

I have rec'd yours of 7 Feby advising your having remitted 600 dolls to Fish Grinnell & Co & I have their acknowledgment of the same - yours

Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 8 March 1826

Fish Grinnell & Co
New York

I have put on board the Experiment 8 Tierces Winter Oil for John Harrison of Charleston - I must ask the favor of you to ship it to him by the first packet for Charleston, & get it insured & write him by the vessel that takes it & enclose him bill of lading - Capt Taber will pay the prem. of insurance & all the shipping charges - Amt to be insured 350 dolls.

Respectfully yours
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 9 March 1826

David Anthony
Providence

I have put on board Sloop
Jenny Capt Allen 50 boxes Sperm Candles - as
per Invoice annexed - which sell to best
advantage & place 3/4ths of the net proceeds
to the credit of W R Rotch & Co 3/4th to my credit
I hope you will be able to sell them without
giving a longer credit than four months
as that is now the usual credit given on Candles
in other places -

I shall be happy to receive a remittance
or have liberty to draw on you as soon as there
is any thing due me - What per cent do you
make in selling Oil -

With much respect Your friend
Wm J Rotch

New Bedford 13 March 1826

Fish Grinnell & Co
New York

I request you will send me
by the return of the Experiment or Ann which ever
may sail first 830 sheets of Sheathing Copper
for Ship Timoleon of the following sizes 1/3rd 26oz
1/3rd 24oz - 1/3rd 20oz - or 2/3rds 26oz & 1/3rd 20oz but
I prefer the former - I shall probably have occasion
to send to you for some other articles for her -
The Experiment & Ann will both leave for N York
in a few days - I write by mail that you may
have more time to purchase the Copper -

I rec'd your letter by the Ann yesterday
advising your having rec'd a remittance
of 800 dolls from Sam'l C Dunton of Phila
that you had credited W R Rotch & Co with

3/4 hhs & my Act with 1/4 hh — This remittance was made at my request & solely on my Act & I have rec'd a letter from Mr Bunting ~~this~~ informing me he has remitted you 800 dolls. & charg'd it to my Act — I must therefore give you the trouble to transfer the 3/4 hhs to my credit — so that my Act will stand credited with the whole Amt say 800 dolls. —

with much respect Yr friend
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 14 March 1826

John B. Darroch
Norfolk (per mail)

I have rec'd your favr of 27th ult° with Sales of 50 boxes Sperm Candles sent you per Sloop Pomona — which is Satisfactory — As you seem to think you could dispose of another lot of Candles, I have accordingly put on board the Schr Love Capt Perry 150 boxes — which I hope will meet with as good a Sale — They are very dry & white & I suspect superior to those generally sold in your market — The Schr will be ready to sail to morrow — I shall send you Invoice & Bill of lading by her —

Is it not the custom in your place for the purchaser to pay for the box — it is in all other places except Phila & N Orleans —

Respectfully Yours
Wm T. Russell

copy per Mail

New Bedford 14 March 1826

Henry Payson & Co
Baltimore

per Sch Jane

Enclosed is Invoice of 100 boxes Sperm Candles sent you per Sch Jane Capt Tripp - which you will sell to best advantage 3/4 ths of the Net proceeds plan to the credit of W R Rotch & C 1/4 th to my credit - These Candles are very dry & white & I suspect better than those generally sold in your Markets I will warrant them to stand the heat of any climate - I shall be happy to make you further shipments should your market offer sufficient inducement -

Respectfully yr obt Servt
Lyman Russell

New Bedford 16 March 1826

Elisha Rathaway & Co
Boston

I have put on board Sloop Traveller 150 boxes Sperm Candles, for you to ship to Havana - You are at liberty to send them to any other port if in your opinion they will do better - in short do with them as you would with your own & you shall be satisfied, let the result be as it may - when the adventure is closed account to W R Rotch & Co for 3/4 ths of the proceeds & to me for 1/4 th -

With much respect
yr friend
Lyman Russell

New Bedford 18 March 1826

Fish Grinnell & Co
New York

I am in want of you to send me by the return of the Experiment 9 bolts of heavy Russia Duck & 10 Bolts Raven Duck for Ships Tenders & charge it to the account —

Respectfully Yours
Wm T Russell

New Bedford 20 March 1826

David Anthony
Providence

I have received your favor of 16th inst & am sorry to hear so bad an account of your market for Oil Hardly — I cannot think of selling at the prices you name — I wish you to hold our Straits Oil at 70 cts & Candle at 33 cts — I would not ship any more down at those prices — The Nantucket Folks are obliged to sell at any prices they can get to raise money — This is the only cause of the fall of Oil —

There has not been so little in the country for several Years as there is at this time, & prices must advance next fall —

Please to take the necessary care of our Oil & see that it does not waste by Leakage —

I draw on You to day at sight for 100 dolls in favr Jos. Ricketson Cashr —

With much respect
Wm T Russell

New Bedford 20 March 1826

Saml C Bunting
Philadelphia

I duly rec'd your favor of 11th inst & am sorry to learn to hear of the state of your Oil Market — There is no other cause for the fall of Oil than the embarrassments of the Nantucket folks — they are obliged to sell to raise money to meet their engagements at the Banks — but this state of things cannot last long — It is a well known fact that there is much less Oil in the country than there has been for several years — Only about half the usual supply expected to arrive — In New Bedford the stock is very small compared with former years, by far one half & only one ship from the Pacific expected to arrive — Therefore I have no doubt that prices will advance next fall — I cannot think of sending any more to Market at present prices — & that I believe is the conclusion of all the Manufacturers here —

You are at liberty to sell what Oil you have of ours on hand at the retail prices —

The Betty Frankles was detained several days after I wrote you but ought to have arrived by this time —

With much respect &c
Yours Russell

New Bedford 20 March 1826

John Ayrinson
Charleston

Your favor of 7th inst informing me you had remitted F. Grinnell & Co duly I have received — I wrote you on the 7th inst that I had sent you 8 Tierces Winter Oil, supposing from what you wrote your wife, you would want it very soon, but as you say nothing about it in your last letter I conclude you are not in immediate want of it & regret that I have sent it — and now as prices since writing you have further declined — & you might think me cayer to put off my Oil upon you above the market price — Under this circumstance I leave it optional with you to take the 8 Tierces on your own account or sell it for me — The price I charged you was 72 cts & I should not be willing to sell such Oil now at ~~the same~~ a less price — I have just heard from New York & Phila that Nantucket Winter Oil has been sold at 62 cts — Many of the Nantucket folks are obliged to sell their Oil at any price they can get to raise money — But this cannot last long — It is a well known fact that there is much less Oil in the country than there has been for several years — In this place there is not more than half the usual supply & only one Ship expected this year from the Pacific Ocean — It is therefore evident that Oil must rise next fall — All the Manufacturers here have come to the conclusion not to sell at present prices —

Among some letters which came from

New York this morning I found an direc-
tion to you at Charleston in Jos. Grinnells
hand writing - I conclude it was sent
him thro' mistake & I shall put it in the
post office with this —

Our venerable post master Abm Smith
died last friday - Rich Williams Genl
Lincoln & Thos Pope are candidates for the
office - It is uncertain who will get it —

Your family have many recruits from
their colds & are about as well as usual —

With much regard Yours &c
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 28 March 1826

Elisha Hathaway & Co
Boston

I understand from
W Rotch & Co that Mr Hamm will want the
money you loaned of him for us, when the
year expires - Will it not be in your power
to raise five or six thousand dollars for us to meet
the payment of our note to Mr Hamm - If any
further security is wanted than our joint note
we shall be willing to give it - Will you
have the goodness to make enquiry & see what
you can do for us & write me on the subject
in the course of a week or ten days - as business
has turned, this money becomes due at a time
the most inconvenient for us to pay it —

I have recd your bill Sales of 60 boxes candles
which are correct & very satisfactory —

The manufacturers here are disposed to
hold their Oil & their prices are so low - the
stock of Oil in the Country is now so small
that it will be very easy to raise the price
next fall —

Very truly Yours
Wm T Russell

New Bedford 30 March 1826

Richard G Dowland
Baltimore

I will thank you to send me 20 Bbls of Howard St Super fine Flour. If you can send it by a vessel bound direct here by the 15th Apl.

It is some time since I had the pleasure of hearing from you. I should be glad to have a line from you informing me what progress you make in selling Oil. & what the prices are. - I do not want any sacrifice made of ours - if prices get very low I have rather keep it till next Fall. The stock of Oil in the country is now so small. that prices must advance next Fall -

with much respect yr
Uptn T Rudd

New Bedford 6 Apl. 1826

Fish Grinnell & Co
New York

Please send me by the return of the Ann 30 bbls Prime Pork & 3 Hhds of Molasses that will gauge 300 gals or upwards for Ship Timoleon - I wish the Pork to be of the best quality of the kind - Havana Molasses will answer -

I have put on board the Ann 5 Hhds of Sperm Oil for Jno Harrison of Charleston which please forward to him & get 430 dolls insured on it. & inform him of the shipment by the vessel which takes it - Capt Allen will pay the prem. & all charges -

with respect &c
Uptn T Rudd

New Bedford 8th Apr 1826

John Harrison
Charleston S.C.

Yours of 21st March was duly
receivd — Agreable to your request I have
sent you via New York 5 Bbls Sperm Oil as
per annexed Invoice & have requested F G & Co
to get it insured — I have put the price lower
than I ought to — I sold 20 Bbls a few days since
at 65 cts — Upon your get entered out of
Candles let me know & I will send you some
to sell on commission —

Fish Grinnell & Co have advised me of
having received your remittance of 400 dolls.

I will do the best I can with the Oil
cask I intend sending — Your family is well
Rich.d Williams is appointed Post Master —

With much regard Yours truly
Wm.m T. Russell

New Bedford 14 Apr.l 1826

Gideon Fowler & Co
New York

I have rec.d your favor
of 8th inst & am glad to hear the price of
Sperm Oil & Candles has advanced a little —
The quantity of Oil in the hands of manufac-
turers is now so small, that I have no
doubt Sperm Oil will advance next Fall
to 70 cts or more & Winter is prospective — I
cannot think of selling at present prices &
all the manufacturers I have I believe
come to the same conclusion —

I shall be glad to hear from you
whenever there is any change in the price of
Oil & Candles — With much respect
Yours &c
Wm.m T. Russell

New Bedford 18 Apr. 1826

William Adams Esqr
Chilmark (Vineyard)

I shipped a mate for the Seneca to day - I have taken more time to give you an answer than what I promised - but as it was not determined until this morning, whether you could have a mates birth, I could not of course write you before -

I will thank you to request Obed Nickerson to send me word whether he intends to go in the Seneca as Boat steerer for the day I offered him - I will keep the birth open for him until he sends me word -

Your friend
Wm C Russell

New Bedford 2d May 1826

Richard G Bowland
Baltimore

I have received yours of 26th ulto inclosing Invoice of 20 bbls Flour & Sales of 82 casks Winter Oil - The Sales are correct, but the price of the last parcel is quite too low - I have not sold so low at any other place - & in fact it was worth 65 cts here at the time you sold it - I am aware that Nantucket Oil was sold as low & perhaps lower, but I am not disposed to make the sacrifice which they have made - I have no reason to doubt however that you have done what you consider for the best -

Very truly Yr friend
Wm C. Russell

New Bedford 6 May 1826

Fish Grinnell & Co
New York

I send you per Sloop Ann
21 Casks Sperm Oil, as per Invoice - for which
I want 70 cs - You will please hold it until
you can get that price - 3/4ths of the nett proceeds
place to the credit of W R Fitch & Co & 1/4th to
my credit -

Respectfully yours
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 19 May 1826

James Birkhead
Rio de Janeiro, S. America

Capt Latham Corps of Ship
Timoleon is bound on a whale voyage to
the coast of Brazil, should he have occasion
to stop at Rio de Janeiro for refreshments, or in
consequence of any disaster - You will very
much oblige me by rendering him all the
assistance in your power, his drafts on me
for the disbursements of the Ship will be duly
honored -

I am respectfully your obt Servt
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 19 May 1826

Samuel C Bunting
Philadelphia

I have received your favor
of 13 inst & am pleased to hear Oil is advancing
with you - It has also risen in other places to
about the same prices you quote - I shall make
you a shipment by first opportunity -

As to Elephant Oil of which you make enquiry
there is none in the Country, nor has there
any been brought into the country for several years -

should any be offered in your market, you may be assured it is nothing more than common Whale Oil — There is not a barrel of Whale Oil here to be sold — but the Ships are expected in daily — The price will probably be from 22 to 25 cts by the cargo —

Respectfully Yours
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 24 May 1826

Fish Grinnell & Co

I send you per Sloop Ann 20 Casks Sum Oil, which you are at liberty to sell at 70 cts — 4 Mos or equal to that — Place 3/4ths of the proceeds to the credit of W R — Notch & 1/4th to my credit — My Note to Capt De Cast for 2000 dolls which you inform me he has left in your hands I shall endeavour to pay at the time you mention —

Respectfully yours
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 27 May 1826

David Anthony
Providence

I have put on board Sloop ~~Welcome~~ Geo. & Phebe Capt West 17 Casks Sum Oil as per Invoice — should it sell pretty readily at 70 cts — I will make you another shipment & keep you supplied through the Summer — Your favor of 19th inst with Sales of balance of former shipments of Oil is received — ~~The Sales are correct~~ —

Respectfully yrs
Wm T. Russell

I invested you some Candles if you can sell them @ 34 cts, 4 Mos —

New Bedford 27 May 1826

Elisha Nathaway Esq
Boston

I have put on board Sloop Traveller 25 Casks Sum Oil, which I am willing you should sell at 70 cs. 3/4 ths of nat proceeds credit WRR Roth & Co & my a/c 1/4 th — I have about 300 bbls of the same lot which I wish to work off this Sum & will send it to you in small lots whenever you can advise a shipment —

I took the liberty to draw on you the 15th inst at 30 days for 600 dolls, which I hope will not put you to any inconvenience —

With much respect yr ob
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 30 May 1826

Fish Grinnell & Co
New York

Annexed is Invoice of 100 boxes Sperm Candles sent you per Sloop Experiment — 3/4 ths of the proceeds place to the credit of WRR & Co 1/4 th to my credit —

Respectfully
Wm T Russell

New Bedford 3 Jun 1826

Sam'l C Bunting
Philadelphia

At the time I rec'd your favor of 26 ult'o a ship arrived with a cargo of Whale Oil I have been waiting since for sales of her cargo to be made that I could inform you of the prices About 1400 bbls in 18 days was sold at 22 cs 3 & 6 mos — a lot of 100 bbls in 1 day was sold at 23 cs Cash — These prices are entirely

above your limits – I do not think it will go below 20 cs by the cargo –
I have sent you per Sch Betty Franklin about 100 Bbls Sperm Oil in Pipes Invoice of which you will receive by the Sch – She is ready to sail the first fair wind –

Respectfully yr Sr a
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 6 Jan 1826

Capt William Hammond
of Ship Minerva

You will proceed from hence with Ship Minerva now loaded with a cargo of Whale Oil to Bilbao – Your cargo is addressed to Mr John B Aguirre to whom you will consign the Ship – Your freight Money leave in his hands to be remitted to Messrs Thomas Dickason & Co of London – Should there not any freight offer at Bilbao & should there not be sufficient inducement to go to another port for freight You will return direct to New-Bedford in Ballast –

wishing you a short & pleasant voyage
I am with regard your friend
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 13 Jan 1826

Samuel C Bunting
Philadelphia

I receive your favor of 8th inst last evening & have been trying to day to make a purchase of Whale Oil for You but have not succeeded – Out of the two

cargoes which have lately arrived only 200 bbls is offered for sale & for that 23 cts is asked —

The Owners having made arrangements to ship their Oil to Europe are unwilling to sell unless they can sell at high prices — There is three or four ships expected daily whose cargoes will be sold here for the most they will bring — but as I said there is several orders in town to purchase at 20 cts I feel less confident that it can be bought at that price than when I last wrote you — But I am still of opinion that when all the ships have arrived. Oil may be bought at 20 cts Cash & perhaps on a credit of four months — But as I shall have several rivals to contend with at that price. I wish you to name the highest price you are willing to give for Cash or four months credit —

Drafts on Philadelphia cannot be negotiated through our Bank without paying ¼ per ct — It would be to your advantage to allow me to draw on New York — as drafts on N York at ten days sight for 500 dolls. & over are the same as Cash here —

If you have any idea of giving higher than 20 cts you will please let me hear from you as soon as possible — You may depend on my exertions to make the best bargain I can for you —

With much respect yr ob[illegible]

Wm T. Russell

New Bedford June 14. 1826

Samuel C Bunting
Philadelphia

I have Yours of 10th inst in forming Thos & Bunting have reduced the price of Sperm Oil to 65 cts Winter to 70 cts - I cannot believe that it is mere spite to Capt Hussey that has induced Mr Swift to order his Oil sold at such prices, but more probably a desire to sell some of his Oil that will not bear the test of Cold weather - I am not disposed to give my aid in reducing the price - I request you will not be governed by Mr S in making your sales, but hold ours at former prices - No arrivals of whale Oil since my last -

with respects yr friends
Wm T Russell

New Bedford June 17. 1826

Samuel C Bunting
Philadelphia

Annexed is Invoice of 100 bbls Sperm Candles ~~sent you~~ on board the Ch^r Jane, which I am induced to send you, by your mentioning in your letter to W R Roth & Co you had no Sperm on hand of N Bedford brands - 3/4ths of the proceeds plase to the credit of W R Roth & Co 1/4 th to my credit -

Two ships with whale Oil have arrived this evening - Only one cargo of which I expect will be for sale & that is a small cargo of about 700 bbls. I shall try but do not expect to succeed in purchasing at your limits, before there is more arrivals. I as I observed to You in a former letter, do not feel confident of buying it even then at your price

With much respect Yr &c
Wm T Russell

New Bedford 22 June 1826

Fish Grinnell & Co

Respected Friends

I send you per Sloop Rosetta 152 bundles Whale bone. supposed to be about 8000 lbs belonging to Ship Parnasso which sell on the best terms you can — The freight is to be as low as others have carried it which I cannot ascertain here all the Packets being absent — Respectfully

W. J. Rupell

New Bedford 22 June 1826

Fish Grinnell & Co

New York

We propose sending the Parnasso to the coast of Guinea & fit her for 18 months. Capt Covell has commanded a vessel two voyages on that coast & is well acquainted with that whaling. we think the chance very good to get five or eight hundred bbls of Sperm Oil & fill up on the bank with whale Oil in 18 months — I hope this will meet the approbation of the New York Owners — I think it decidedly the best thing we can do with her — If her top was suitable for such a voyage I should prefer sending her to the Pacific Ocean — All the repairs her hull will need for this voyage is to sheath her deck anew & put on one more streak of Copper —

I annex a mem. of what I want you to purchase for the Ship — The fore rigging is worn out. we shall shift the Main rigging on the fore mast & get new for the Main mast — Cordage is so very poor here that I thought it best to send to you for

all the large ropes – The Cordage Copper I want as soon as possible – The Pork I shall not want short of two weeks, but if you think it will be higher you may purchase it now – Buy Flour I can get on better terms here –

The price of Sperm Oil has not yet broke I expect it will be about 2/6 – I shall wait your orders before I dispose of the cargo –

Respectfully

Yours &c Russell

Mem. of Cordage &c for Ship Paresso

Main rigging 63 fath. 7½ full

One pair of Main topmast back stays 21½ fath. 6½ in

Fore topmast stay 14 fath. 6¾ in.

30 bbls Prime Pork

40 sheets 24 oz Sheathing Copper –

20 – Do 20 oz Ditto

New Bedford 27 June 1826

Samuel C Bunting

Philadelphia

I duly received your favor of 19th inst & have deferred writing in hopes I could inform you of having made a purchase of whale Oil – but I now despair of succeeding at your limits – The lowest offer I have had is 22/6 60 days – Another Ship arrived yesterday with about 2000 bbls – they may perhaps accept of 21/6 Cash – No entire cargo has been sold yet a great deal has been shipped coastwise – The demand for home consumption has been much greater than usual which has kept up the price beyond the calculation of the holders themselves – I have no doubt I can buy what quantity you want at 22/6 60 or 90 days, but at any thing less it will be doubtful – If you

are willing to give that price you will please inform me by return of Mail —

with respect Yours
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 29 Jun 1826

Fish Grinnell & Co
New York

Annexed is Invoice of 52 casks whale Oil sent you per Sloop Nelson of Ship Parnassos Cargo — which sell on the best terms you can on the wharf — the proceeds place to my credit —

with respect
Wm T Russell

New Bedford Jun 29. 1826

Fish Grinnell & Co
New York

Annexed is Invoice of 74 casks whale Oil on board Sloop Ann being Joseph & Moses Grinnells Share of Ship Parnassos whale Oil — I have sold the Sperm Oil to Jno A Parker at 76 cts 4 months I rec'd your letter by the Experiment with Sales of the whale bone & bill of Sundries for Parnassos freight of the Oil to be 30 cts pr Bbl. Oil sent you per Sloop Nelson same freight —

With respect
Wm T Russell

New Bedford 1 July 1826

Elisha Hathaway & Co
Boston

Inclosed Invoice of
53 Casks whale Oil containing 8526 gallons
being about the quantity you sold at 26 cts
for Act of the Owners of Ship Parnasso —
Also Invoice of 63 casks numbered from
1 to 63 to distinguish it from the other
Invoice, which sell from the Wharf on the
best terms you can — Insure not on any
account Draw if as more may be expected to
follow this in a few days —

Respectfully Yours
Wm T Russell

New Bedford 2 July 1826

Elisha Hathaway & Co
Boston

I have put on board
Sloop Traveller 53 casks Whale Oil con-
taining 8526 gals. being about the quantity
you sold at 26 cts for Act of the Owners of
Ship Parnasso — Also 63 casks containing
5429 gals. which sell from the Wharf on the
best terms you can & do not on any account
draw it as more may be expected to follow
in very soon — Of the 63 casks more than
half is Tierces & bbls —

About 300 bbls of whale Oil has been sold
within a few days at 23 cts 60 days is on bot — but
no sale of an entire cargo has yet been made —
2 cts 6 months has been offered — 22 cts 60 d is asked

The Traveller left yesterday afternoon
by her you will receive Invoice of the Oil

Respectfully yours
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 3 July 1826

David Anthony
Providence

I did not receive your favor of 30th ult. enquiring the price of 200 or 300 bbls whale Oil in time to answer it before this mail — I have disposed of all my whale Oil — The lowest price I have had named to me is 24 cs 4 months in large casks — I could not get a price named for that quantity all in barrels — The price of whale Oil has kept up beyond the expectation of the holders themselves —

With respect
Yours &c Russell

New Bedford 14 July 1826

Charles Hadwin
Respected friend

Annexed is Invoice of 100 boxes Spurm Candles sent you per Sloop Geo. & Phebe. which I will to best advantage — 3/4ths of the net proceeds place to the credit of W R Rotch & Co & 1/4th to my credit — My Father Gilbert Russell requests me to say to you that it will oblige him if you would credit the Sale of the whale Oil you sold for him. If it is convenient for you to do it, you will please write him & give him leave to draw on you at sight —

with respect yrs &c
Yours Russell

July 16. 1826

Saml C Bunting
Philadelphia

I duly rec'd your favr of 3d inst authorizing me to purchase 500 bbls whale Oil on the best terms I could & 2000 bbls if it could be had at 21 cts — I have not yet made a purchase but have been waiting in expectation of getting the whole quantity at your limit — No sale of any consequence has yet been made — 22 cts cash is the lowest price I have had it offered at — I feel unwilling to give that price for 500 bbls as that would establish the market price at least for some time I shall however make the purchase of 500 bbls at 22 cts in a few days if I cannot do better — The New York Gas company have offered 22 cts 4 mo's credit for 3000 — If you are anxious to buy you must make up your mind to give at least 22 cts cash —

Respectfully yours
Wm T Russell

July 20. 1826

Samuel C Bunting
Philadelphia

I have this day bought about 350 bbls Whale Oil for you at 21 1/2 cents cash & shall draw on you for it in a day or two at sight. I shall endeavour to make up 500 bbls at the same price — This is the lowest price it has been sold at here this Summer — An entire cargo of 2000 bbls has been sold to day at 22 cts 4 & 6 months Cr I shall ship the Oil to you immediately & will write you by mail as soon as the vessel is loaded

that you may make insurance if you choose
with respect &c &c
Wm. T. Russell

July 28. 1826

Samuel C Bunting
Philadelphia

I have this day drawn on you in favor Jos. Ricketson Cashr at sight for 2400 dolls. on acct of Whale Oil bot for you — Since my last of the 20th inst I have purchased about 150 bbls Whale Oil for you at 23 cts 1/2 per ct discount — at which price 200 bbls was sold at the same time. I am now loading Sloop Traveller Capt Cowell with your Oil — She will probably be ready to sail on Sunday next — I shall draw on you for the balance of the Invoice next Monday — All the Whale Oil now remaining on hand is now stored & is held at 24 to 25 cts —

with much respect &c
Wm T. Russell

P.S. Since closing my letter the Traveller has completed her loading — She has on board 107 casts Whale Oil gauging ~~150 bbls~~ 14318 gals of which 1504 gals is on deck at half freight — She will be ready to sail to morrow afternoon. if the wind be fair — I have broken open my letter to add this P.S. in case you should wish to effect insurance The Traveller is a good substantial vessel & is well found she runs as a packet between this port & Boston — WTR
July 28th —

(Per Traveller)

29 July 1826

Saml C Bunting
Philadelphia

Enclosed is Invoice & bill of lading of 107 Casts Whale Oil on board Sloop Traveller Capt Crowell ship?, for your account —

If the Traveller returns to N Bedford I will thank you to send me from 100 to 300 bbls of Sperm Oil Market cask. if you can purchase them 1/2 cent per gallon at that price they shd be in good order. The Staves ought not to be over 70 gals — Good Rum bbls hold oil very well & I like them quite as well as bbls which have been filled with Oil — Capt Crowell will assist you in selecting them —

Very truly yr frd.
Wm T. Russell

1st August 1826

Samuel C Bunting
Philadelphia

I have drawn on you to day at sight in favr Wm Russell for $400 dolls. also at sight in favr James B Congdon Cashr for $408.53/100. for balance of Invoice of Whale Oil sent you per Sloop Traveller — The Traveller sailed the 29th July about noon, but as the wind has been a head she could not have made much progress —

with Much respect
Wm T. Russell

12 August 1826

Elisha Hathaway & Co
Boston

I send you Invoice of 29 Tierces Strain'd Oil on board Sloop Pomona The colour of this Oil is rather dark, but it is otherwise good - You must do the best you can with it - credit W R Rotch & Co with 3/4ths of the prounds & my a/c with 1/4 th -

Respectfully Yours
Wm T. Russell

19 Aug.t 1826

Fish Grinnell & Co
New York

I send you Invoice of 50 Tierces Winter Oil on board Sloop Ann which sell to best advantage - plase 3/4 ths of the prounds to the credit of W R Rotch & Co 1/4 th to my credit -

Respectfully
Wm T Russell

Please send me by the return of the Ann Stow E. river hoops

Aug.t 19. 1826

Gideon Howland
New York

I send you Invoice 15 Tierces Winter Oil on board Sloop Ann which sell to best advantage - 3/4 ths of the net proceeds plase to the credit of W R Rotch & Co 1/4 th to my credit - You may send me about 400 bbls suitable to Sperm Oil if they will not cost delivered here, over 65 c.s per bbl - I should be glad to have as many by the return of the Ann as Capt Allen can take -

with respect
Wm T Russell

29 August. 1826

Gideon Howland
New York

I rec'd your favor yesterday by the Ann. the barrels you have sent me are better than I could expect for the price & I am very much pleased with your purchase. You will please continue to send them as fast as possible. If you can buy pipes with a full complement of iron hoops no broken chimes or cracked staves that do not gauge over 70 gals, at two cents per gal. you may send me 100 of them in addition to the barrels.

I now send you by the Experiment 6 Pipes Sperm Oil. It being the balance of an old stock & dark colour'd, except one or two casts I do not expect you to get the Market price for it. You must do the best you can with it. credit W R Botch & Co with 3/4 ths & my act with 1/4 th of the proceeds

with much respect
Wm T. Russell

4 Sept 1826

Samuel E Bunting
Philadelphia

Herewith you have Invoice & bill of lading of 25 Pipes Sperm Oil on board Brig Rodman, which sell to best advantage. credit W R Botch & Co with 3/4 ths & my act with 1/4 th of the proceeds

I shall make you shipment of Winter Oil shortly. Please send me by the return of the Rodman about 400 lbs of Brown Lump Sugar, the same as the last you sent me

with respect
Wm T Russell

7 September 1826

Charles Hudwin
Providence

You wrote me the 19th July that in a few days you would remit my Father the balance of his Act – he accordingly depended on it & is disappointed in not receiving it – I will thank you to inform me by return of Mail whether you can remit it or not that he may know what to depend upon, & not be kept any longer in suspense –

with respect
Wm T Russell

8 Sept. 1826

Henry Payson & Co
Baltimore

Enclosed an Invoice of 100 boxes Spurm. Candles & 54 Casks Winter Oil on board Brig Columbus Capt Nye which sell to best advantage – credit WR Booth & Co with 3/4 ths of the proceeds & my Act with 1/4 th – One Cask of this Oil Mark WR is of the best quality I can make – if it should do well I can make you another shipment of the same sort –

(per Brig Columbus) Respectfully Yours
Wm T Russell

(per Mail)

8 Sepr 1826

Henry Payson & Co
Baltimore

I have recd yours of 29th ult° covering Sales of 100 boxes Sperm Candles, which are correct except in dividing the proceeds you say you have credited 100 Bxs Sch H 672.55. which should be 673.55

I have sent you per Brig Columbus Capt Nye (to sail tomorrow) 100 boxes Sperm Candles & 2732 gals Winter Oil in small Casks - for the Candles I am in hopes you will obtain 33 or 34 cts. - they are of the same quality as the last I sent you - I shall be glad to make you another shipment of Winter Oil, if it will bring 75 cts - You will receive Invoice per the Columbus -

with respect
Yours &c Russell

11 Sepr 1826

Gideon Moulton
New York

I have your favors of 5th & 7th inst - The large bbls with ash heads will answer my purpose if they have not been filled with liquor - ash will hold Oil as well as Oak - many Oil casks are made with ash heads - There is however one kind of ash that is very porous & has a coarse grain - if you can ascertain they are not that kind - I shall be glad to have them - The bbls you sent me by the Carolina are equal to the former lot - I shall make you a shipment of Candles by next packet -

with respect
Yours &c Russell

16 October 1826

Richard G Goulaw
Baltimore

I the Spermaceti which I have sent you, will not sell in its present form state you will please send it back to me whereon there is a vessel coming direct to N Bedford — If you wanted it in any particular form you should have mentioned it — I have always been in the habit of running it into Candle boxes Coloured —

I have Fifty Guineas for acknowledgment of a remittance from you of $ 195.4/100 on my account — Respectfully Yours

Wm T Russell

16 October 1826

David Anthony
Providence

Your letter of 13 inst giving me liberty to draw on you for 550 dolls. I have red & have accordingly drawn for that amt 8 day — I wish in future you would give WRR & myself liberty to draw on you upon the sum accumulates to the present time — So that you may not loose interest of money —

In regard to the price of Sperm Oil I have to observe that the time is very near when it must rise — & I do not know you will any of yours at less than 68 cs, nor Candles at less than 32 cs — Some of my candles have lately been sold in Town for Speculation at 30 cs — It was contrary to my expectations & I feel very much dissatisfied with it — I shall be happy to make you further shipment as soon as your Markets will warrant it

Respectfully Wm T Russell

October 20, 1826

David Anthony
Providence

Agreeable to your request I have sent you per Sloop Geo H Preble 3 Bbls of my best Winter Oil - the quality of which I trust will suit you - I have charged it as low as any I have sold this Fall of the same quality - with respect

Wm T Russell

November 1. 1826

Fish Grinnell & Co
New York

Having taken a part of Brig Argus, you will oblige me by transferring 1000 Dlls from my Acct to the credit of W R Rotch & Co, towards paying for her Cargo

I also wish to take the liberty of drawing on you about the 10th of this Month for 800 dolls at 30 or 60 days - to meet which I have ordered Sam'l Keating of Phila to remit you about that time -

If it will not give you much trouble I wish you would send me a rough sketch of my Acct - Respectfully yours

Wm T. Russell

p. Ship Minerva 15 Nov. 1826

Henry Payson & Co.
Baltimore

I enclose Invoices of 150 boxes Spurm Candles & 68 casks Winter Oil sent You pr Ship Minerva - the quality of the Oil is so good, particularly the 13 casks that I am in hopes it will sell at about the Invoice prices - The proceeds you will credit as Mr Anthony may direct - who will be in Baltimore when the Ship arrives -

Respectfully Yours
Wm T. Russell

18 Nov. 1826

Thomas W Ridge
Baltimore

I have sent you pr Ship Minerva Capt Hammond 16 casks of best Winter Oil, containing about 1100 gals - You will find it very light colour'd & better I suspect than that which is generally sent to Your Market - it ought to bring 77 cts soon after the same has been sold by Payson & Co at 80 cts - but I do not limit You at any price -

The Minerva sailed to day by her I sent you Invoice of the Oil -
Mr Anthony will be in Your City about the time You will receive this -

with respect
Your friend
Wm T. Russell

19 November 1826

Messrs Henry Payson & Co
Gentn

The Ship Minerva
Capt Hammond sailed Yesterday for
Your port - by her I have sent you 150 boxes
Sperm Candles assorted sizes & 68 casks
of Winter Oil - containing about 4700 gals.
about 1900 gals of which is of the same quality
as that which You sold at 80 cts - Invoice
of which Capt Hunt will hand you on his
arrival -

Mr Anthony of this firm of W R Roth & Co
is now in New York & will be in your City
by the time the Minerva will arrive -

Respectfully yours
Wm T. Russell

December 20. 1826

John B Harwood
Norfolk

It is a long time since
I had the pleasure of hearing from you -
I conclude from that circumstance you
have not completed the Sale of the 150
boxes Spermaceti Candles I sent You last
March - I wish you to close the sales as soon
as practicable & had rather you would sell
them at 33 cts than hold them any longer -
The proceeds as you will please remit to Fish
Grinnell & Co New York if it can be done at
par - If remittances cannot be made at par
to New York. remit to Henry Payson & Co
Baltimore -

I am with respect yrs &c
Wm T. Russell

9 January 1827

Joseph & Moses Grinnell
New York

Dear Brothers

I enclose my accounts with you - balance due me from each of you 570.33/100 dolls 31 Dec 1826 - making 1140.66/100 dolls which you will please place to my credit on Fish Grinnell Hs books - This amount I shall be under the necessity of drawing on you for in a few days to meet the payment of some of the Parnassos bills - The Parnassos account I will send you if you wish to look it over, when the owners have done with it -

affectionately Yours
Wm T Russell

13 Days drew on F G & Co for $1140.66 @ 5 ds for J Rogers

29 Jany 1827 -

Richard G Houlton
Baltimore

Your favor of 15th inst covering Sales 20 bbls refined Spermaceti was duly rec'd the Sales Satisfactory -

In reply to your enquiry what I would sell 3 to 4000 lbs refined Spermaceti at - suitable for Candles & put into casks - I will say 31½ @ 4 mos - & charge the casks at what I shall be obliged to give for them - which will probably be 1.50/100 dolls -

Respectfully Yours
Wm T Russell

New Bedford Feby 9. 1827

Fish Grinnell & Co
New York

I send you per Sloop Ann
500 boxes Sperm Candles, which you are at
liberty to sell at 32 cs. provided you can
make a sloop of the whole or nearly the whole
of them. If you can ~~make~~ recommend a
shipment of Winter Oil by next packet I will
send you some.

With respects yr frd
Wm T. Russell

Feby 12. 1827.

John Harrison
Charleston S. C.

I find on examination
of the amount I rendered you last Fall when
you was here, that I credited you with one
remittance of 600 dolls more than you made.
I was led to the examination on receiving Fish
Grinnell & Co's act. They give credit Feby 16
for your remittance of $600 & March 18 for another
remittance of the same amount. On refering
to your letters I find you inform me under date
of March 7 that you had remitted F G & Co
600 dolls. & under date of Feby 7. that you had
again remitted the same amount. which
agrees with F G & Co's act. that there was but
two remittances of 600 dolls. made. Now if
you will refer to my account you will find
I give you credit for three remittances of
600 dolls. each viz. Feby 16th $600 Feby 22. $600
& March 16th $600. All the other remittances
agree. I have no doubt you will be convinced
after examining your books that you have

made but two remittances of $600 dolls — as all your remittances were made through Fish Grinnell & Co (except one to Henry Grinnell in Jany of $400) any mistake on my part cannot avoid being detected — I presume I made the mistake by crediting you with $600 when I rec'd your letter advising of your having made the remittance & again crediting you with $600 dolls when I rec'd F G & Co's letter acknowledging the receipt of it —

I have not had the pleasure of hearing from you since you left here — I was in hopes to have received a remittance from you before this time — the amount you owe us you will recollect was due last October — I hope it will be convenient for you to remit a part at least before long — the balance against you including the mistake of $600 is about $1440. exclusive of interest —

The remainder of the letter giving him the news of the town —

with respects I remain
Wm T. Russell

Feby 19. 1827

Richard J Houland
Baltimore

I have rec'd your favor of 12th inst informing me you can dispose of the Germantic at 31½ cts — I shall accordingly get it ready as soon as possible & will endeavour to send it early in March —

Respectfully Yours
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 19 Feby 1827

Elisha Hathaway & Co
Boston

If you can dispose of some Winter Oil. I will make a shipment by the Ponema to sail the last of this week - I have no Sum Oil on hand but shall have some as soon as the weather moderates so that it can be manufactured —

I duly rec'd your favor enclosing your Act for the past year - which appears to be correct I draw on you the 25 Inst for $550 at 5 ds - the 29th for $500 at 60 ds - the 5th inst for $500 at 60 ds & 6 day for $500 at 60 ds - which I hope is satisfactory

Respectfully yours -
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 19 Feby 1827

Henry Payson & Co
Baltimore

per mail

I have put on board Sloop Traveller Capt Crowell 50 casks Sum Oil about 1600 gals - 22 casks new Winter Oil about 670 gals made during the late severe weather 130 bons Sperm Candles assorted sizes - which dispose of to best advantage - The Traveller will leave N Bedford tomorrow should the wind be favorable by her you will receive Invoice -

Respectfully yours
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 20 Feby 1827

Henry Payson & Co
Baltimore

I enclose Invoices of 22 casks
new Winter Oil - 50 Casks Sum^r Oil & 130 boxs Sperm
Candles, on board Sloop Traveller Capt^n Crowell,
which you will dispose of to best advantage - 3/4 ths
of the proceeds plase to the credit of W R Rotch & Co
& 1/4 to my credit - You will plase under Sales of
each Invoice seperate -

With respect Your Ser^t
Wm^m J Russell

20 Feby 1827

Gideon Howland
New York

I shall want some more
Market casks in the course of next month & request
you will purchase for me about 500 bbls - some
fires but chiefly whiskey bbls, & send them as
opportunities may offer - the whiskey casks gauging
about 50 gals, which you sent me last fall proved
to be excellent casks & I should like to have as
many of that description as you can purchase -
the price I expect will be about the same as
you paid last fall -

I regret there should have been any mis-
understanding about my drawing on you - I drew
on you without the knowledge of W R Rotch & Co
& they drew without my knowledge - as it is
now done it will suit our convenience best
to let it stand as it is - particularly as I shall
be making you shipments of Oil occasionally
I shall have considerable Sum^r Oil in Apr
& shall wish to keep you supplied -

with respect yr Ser^t
Wm^m J Russell

20 Feby 1827

Fish Grinnell & Co.

I have just receiv'd
your favor of 17th inst per Shot Tower & am
sorry to hear Candles are not more brisk —
I do not expect they will be higher very soon
& wish you to make sale of those I have sent
you whenever a safe purchaser presents —
the price I leave discretionary with — any
thing over 30 cts for the whole or a considerable
part of them I should consider a good sale —
but this you will please keep to yourselves —
with respect yr &c
Wm T Russell

5 March 1827

Henry Payson & Co
Baltimore

I have your favor of
27th ult to enclosing E Gardner draft on J Swain
of Nantucket for 200 dolls. & giving me liberty
to draw on you for 800 dolls which I accord-
ingly did on the 3 inst at sight — & have given
you credit for $1000 in act —

I wish you to be governed by your
own judgment in the Sale of our Oil &
Candles we are not willing at any time to make
a sacrifice to raise money — but you must be
govern'd in some measure by your neighbors —
& I think you had better at the present moment
put your prices down to what others are asking —
as we cannot expect an improvement in
prices very soon

with respect yr &c
Wm T Russell

31 March 1827

Rich^d G Hoxland
Baltimore

Sch^r Jane

I now annex Invoice & Bill of lading of 8 Casks Spermaceti - It has been ready since the 6th of this month & I have been waiting ever since for an opportunity to send it to you - The Jane is the first vessel that will sail for your port since that time -

When the proceeds of the Spermaceti is due you will please remit it to Fish Grinnell & Co New York - 3/4 ths for acct of W R Rotch & Co & 1/4 th for my acct -

With respect yr frd
Wm^m T Russell

31 March 1827

Richard G Hoxland
Baltimore

I am at last enabled to send you the Spermaceti - It is on board Sch^r Jane Capt^n Tripp in 8 Casks containing 4237 lbs - She will sail to morrow - wind permitting - by her you will receive Invoice & Bill of lading - It has been ready since the 6th of this month - The Jane is the first vessel that will sail for your port since that time - I shall be willing to sell more at the same price if you can find a purchaser -

With respect yr frd
Wm^m T Russell

23 Apr 1827

Thomas Whitridge
Baltimore

Your favor of 20 ult to
annexing Sales of 116 Casks Winter Oil was
duly rec'd - the Sales are correct & satisfactory
I shall have occasion to draw on you in a
few days for my /4 say 206 dolls in a few days -
I have shipped on board Schr Earl
to sail in a few days for Your port 25 Tierces
strained Sperm Oil - containing about
2000 gals. which You are at liberty to dispose
of at the current prices previous to arrival
should you have an opportunity -
with respect Your Ser
Wm T. Russell

24 Apr. 1827

Henry Payson & Co
Gentn

Your favor of 10 th inst
with Sales of Winter Oil Sent per Sch. Minerva
was duly rec'd - the Sales are correct & satisfactory
I have shipped per Schr Earl Capt Bradford to sail first fair wind 50 Casks strained
Sperm Oil - containing about 3000 gals -
which You are at liberty at the current prices
previous to arrival Should you have an
opportunity - You will receive Invoice
& bill of Lading by the Schr
with respect Yr Ser
Wm T. Russell

27 Apr 1827

Elisha Hathaway & Co
Boston

I have an opportunity of purchasing some of Ship Barclays cargo of Sperm Oil on very favorable terms for in want of four or 5000 for that object — Will you have the goodness to endeavour to hire that amount for me for one Year, for which I will give my joint Note with W R Rotch & Co The money will be wanted about the middle of next week — say Thursday next — I shall be glad to hear from you next Tuesday — that I may have time to look elsewhere in case you should not succeed — I think of sending you 100 Bbls of strained Oil next week —

with much respect
Yours &c
Upsh T. Russell

27 Apr 1827

Saml C Bunting
Phila

The Ship Hydaspis from Brazil Banks has arrived with a full cargo of Whale Oil — as she is the first Ship from the Banks, the Owners ideas are very high — they talk of 30 s — The Act from the Brazil fleet generally is unfavorable this Ship left two or three nearly full, & they may be expected daily — At present it is impossible to name a price for Whale Oil, some are of opinion it will not go below 25 s this season — I will advise you when there is more arrivals & keep you informed of the Market — In the present state of your Market I consider it unsafe to have your shares Oil — when there is any change you will please inform me —

with much respect Yr Obt Svt
Upsh T. Russell

5 May 1827

Elisha Hathaway & Co
Boston

Annexed is Invoice 120 casks Strained Oil sent You per Sloop Traveller - which You are at liberty to sell at the current price - I plan 3/4ths of the proceeds to the credit of W R Roth & Co 3/4 to my credit -

I am much obliged for Your good intentions in endeavouring to get the money I required - it has been no disappointment to me - for I have been able to get it at home -

I draw on You this day for $300 at sight -

with much respect
Your frd
Wm Russell

6 May 1827

Saml C Bunting
Philadelphia

I have received Your favor of 28 ult to per Brig Industry with Invoice 80 Kegs which I have - I have tried hard to sell it to day at the Invoice price - but the best offer I have had is 13 dolls. for best quality & 11 dolls for 2d ditto - The best quality is quite too high priced for this market - as most of the paint which is sold here is for ship use - The 2d quality I think I shall be able to retail at the Invoice price - You will please inform me the lowest price I may sell it at -

About 1400 bbls Whale Oil of the Hydaspes Cargo has been sold at 35 cts cash - to ship to Europe - the remainder about 500 bbls has been shipped coastwise - The next ship which may arrive will perhaps get 35 cts - but when the fleet arrive the price will probably be 33 cts - with respect & frd
Wm Russell

New Bedford 21 May 1827 –

Capt William Hammond

We place the Ship Minerva of which you have command, with her cargo entirely under your control – to seek the best market you can find & to dispose of her cargo and invest the proceeds to the best advantage –

We recommend your stopping first at Rio de Janeiro – where you can have the advice of Messrs James Birkhead & Co whether it will be best to proceed further south – Keep us advised of all your proceedings – with my best wishes for your success – I am with respect

your friend

Wm Rotch

26 May. 1827 –

Saml C Bunting

Philadelphia

Annexed is Sales 80 Kegs white Lead net proc $239.33 due 29 Sept – $13 & $11 is the most I could get for it – our painters say the quality is not very good – the same painter to whom I have sold this days he will give $12 per cwt for best quality dry white Lead – delivered here – he does not want any at present, but uses six or eight tons per Year – it should be in bbls of 500 lbs to Jose wt –

Ship Millwood will be about 1800 bbls coals & I arrived this morning – the Owners of this Ship are in the practice of shipping their Coals to Europe I do not expect any of it will be for sale at a reasonable price – I have some doubts whether I shall be able to make a purchase for you at 23 cts – if You are anxious to buy you had better name 24 cts – I shall of course get it as low as possible – The Hydaspis cargo is all disposed of with respect to Flour which sold here for $5 cash – & for U S B –

New Bedford 29 May 1827

John Harrison
Charleston S.C.

I annex a copy of a letter sent you 12 Feby last — Not having received a reply from you on the subject of the mistake of $600. I conclude the letter has miscarried — I beg your early attention to this business & request you will have the goodness to remit a part at least of my demands against you — which have now been standing a long time —

with respect yr frd
Wm J Rotch

New Bedford 31 May 1827

David Anthony
Providence

I send you per Sloop Geo. & Phebe 25 Tierces Sperm Oil which you are at liberty to sell at the current prices — place 5% of the proceeds to the credit of W R Rotch & Co & the balance to my credit — I believe there is something due on former sales & I should like to have liberty to draw on you for whatever there is due me —

I wish that in future when you render sales you would average the times they are due — that we may calculate when to receive our money — As your practice has been it is impossible for me to tell any thing about it — As your sales of Oil frequently do not express the credits, when it is sold by single casks or in small lots —

Respectfully Yours &c.
Wm J. Rotch

New Bedford May 12. 1827

Rabaud Brothers & Co
Marseills –

Messrs Fish Grinnell & Co of New York will ship you for acct of W R Roth & Co & myself about 900 lbs of refined Spermaceti – should this do well I shall wish to make you further shipments of the same article –

I will thank you to inform me what quantity can be disposed of in the course of the year & what will probably be the average price

I am respectfully Yours
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 5 June 1827

David Wilkinson & Co
Pawtucket

The first of June is passed & I have not had the pleasure of hearing from you on the subject of the Hydraulic press – This is the most favourable season of the year to try the experiment of pressing Spermaceti with it – & I would urge you finishing it as soon as possible – Please inform me when I may expect it – The Masons work on which the press is to stand, should be built some time before hand, that it may get thoroughly dry, if you will give me the directions for it I will have it built immediately –

Respectfully Yours
Wm T. Russell

New Bedford 6 June 1827

Samuel C Bunting
Philadelphia

I have purchased one thousand barrels of whale Oil for you at Edgarton, Marthas Vineyard, at 33 cs - 60 days Credit - I have not seen the Oil, but the bargain is on condition that the cargo is of good quality, light coloured &c - I shall go to Edgarton & examine it & ship it from there in the course of next week - the freight will be no more from there than it would be from here -

No sales of whale Oil have been made here since the Hydaspes cargo was sold - that brought 35 cs - All that is now on hand is still held at that price, but I am inclined to think the holders would not refuse an offer of 24 cs - In the course of next month, after all the ships have arrived one or two thousand barrels may perhaps be bought at 33 cs - but I am by no means confident of it - for I know of orders for about 8 or 10 000 bbls which are not limited in price - this quantity will about take off ~~the stock~~ what will be left after the usual shipments to Europe are made -

Respectfully Yours
Wm C Rotch

A lot of about 12 000 lbs of whale bone was sold yesterday at 27 cs Cash -

Edgarton June 14. 1827.

Samuel C Bunting
Philadelphia

Annexed is Invoice 127 Casks Whale Oil on board Sloop Emma & Eliza Capt Nye. Amounting to $3569.87/100 dollars Ten Casks are on deck - viz from No 116 to No 126 at the risk of the Capt & Owners of the Sloop I shall forward a bill of lading per mail which will probably reach you before this —

Respectfully Yours
Wm T Russell

forwarded by Sloop Emma & Eliza

Edgarton June 14. 1827

Sam C Bunting
Phi

Annexed is Invoice 119 Casks Whale Oil on board Schr Jane Capt Tripp shipped for your act - amounting to $3766.03/100 - 22 Casks are on deck as per numbers at the margin - at the risk of the Capt & Owners of the Schr - I shall forward a bill of lading per mail which will probably reach you before this —

Respectfully Yours
Wm T Russell

On deck
#50
96
97
#101 to #119 -

forwarded p Schr Jane

New Bedford June 15. 1827

Jam[s] C Bunting
Philadelphia (per mail)

I wrote you yesterday from Edgarton per Sch[r] Jam[s] & Sloop Emma & Eliza enclosing Invoices of Whale Oil shipped by those vessels for your a/c amounting together to $7335.90 due Aug[t] 13 – I now send you bills of lading of each cargo, they are both first rate vessels & can be insured here as low as any coasters from this port – They both left Edgarton yesterday, but as the wind has since been light they could not have made much progress –

The only sale of whale Oil which has been made here since I purchased for you is about 200 bbls at 24 ct Cash – at which price it is still held –

with respect yours
Wm T Russell

New Bedford 19 June 1827

Jam[s] C Bunting
Phila

I rec[d] your favor of 13th inst after having advised you of having shipped the Oil – You observe you hope the Oil is in Tierces & bbls & you would prefer I should draw on you at 30. 60. & 90 days –

It is next to impossible to buy whale Oil in tierces & bbls except in very small lots – the purchases have a proportion of such six casks both qualities more this has been the custom here invariably – The Loaas cargo from which I purchased your Oil, had not so many small casks as most cargoes – but I took all that I was entitled to – the quality of the Oil I think will suit you – I think it is lighter coloured than any cargo which has been landed here this

season — As to the time of payment if you wish an extension beyond sixty days. I could give you thirty or sixty days more —

The Sally Ann arrived yesterday from the Banks with about 1600 bbls whale Oil — No Sales have taken place since my last — 230 four months has been offered for a whole cargo refused —

I have a small lot of light coloured Sperm Oil to send you by first opportunity —

with Much respect yrs
Wm J Russell

P.S. You observe my letter dated 6th inst was post mark'd 7th — Our mail does not close till 8 o'clock in the evening & leaves early next morning — There is always of course a difference of one day between the date & post mark —

If Sch Jane returns to New Bedford please send me about 300 lbs brown lump Sugar —

WJR

New Bedford 20 June 1827

Fish Grinnell & Co
New York

Above you have my draft on Jno R Harwood of Norfolk for $450, which please dispose of as you may think best & place it to my credit — I have a letter from Mr Harwood dated 13th inst authorizing me to draw on him at ten days sight for that amount —

I have your favor of 8th inst enclosing the terms on which several of your insurance companies will take a risk on our Oil Factory — I had previously got 10,000 dolls insured for my individual account for half per cent — at the Com Insu Co here — which is all they can take on one risk — I should like to have

Seven thousand dollars more insured on stock within the premises - say in building, yard & sheds - for my own account - if the Offices will reconsider it & put the premium the same say half per cent - & I will be joint insurer with them for whatever stock is not insured - Or I will give 3/4 per ct & not be considered joint insurer - that is, the insurers to pay whatever loss may occur in case of fire, within 7000 dolls & have no claim on the property saved -

with much respect
Yours Truly
Wm T Russell

New Bedford 28 June 1827

John R Harwood
Norfolk

I have your favor of 13th inst enclosing Mr Tuns draft on Messrs B H Odiorne, Dover for 566.78/100 dolls at 60 ds from date - & authorizing me to draw on you at ten days sights for 450 dolls -

I have accordingly drawn on you this day for that amt at ten days sights, favr Fish Grinnell & Co - The demand for Sperm Candles is so small in your place, that it is hardly an object to make you any further shipments at present - but if at any time you have an opportunity of making sales if you will write me I can send you almost any quantity you may want -

New Bedford 27. June 1827

John Harrison
Charleston S.C.

I rec'd Your favor of 15th inst last evening, enclosing J & M Allen's draft on J & M Allen of New York at 3 d/ sight for 400 dolls. and Your draft on L Washburn at 20 d/ sight for 150 dolls.- which is very acceptable- I am pleased to learn You are convinced of the mistake in my act of 60 dolls - when You come to New Bedford I can prove it to You beyond all doubt- I have nothing new in particular to inform You of- The Oil market is dull- present price for Sperm Oil 60 cts- Whale 70- but is reported to advance next Fall-

I have not had any time to call on Your family to day - I heard from them a few days since they were then well -

with much regard
yr frd. Wm T Russell

New Bedford 12 July 1827.

Saml C Bunting
Respected friend

I have made you a small shipment of Sperm Oil per Sch Jane, as per annexed Invoice- It is the balance of a Stock I am anxious to close- You are at liberty to sell it at the current prices- Your favor 30th was duly rec'd- You say 2, 3 & 4 Mos is as long a credit as you desire on the whale Oil- I will draw on you at the time it is due- say 13 Aug't at 30 & 60 ds which will give You 3 & 4 Mos credit- You will please give me an act of how much the Whale Oil owes me, as soon as convenient, that I may pay it to the Owners of Ship Jane- The last sale of Whale Oil was at 26 cts Cash- Yesterday 28 bbls

6 Mo credit was offered for 1200 bbls of Sperm-
aceti whale oil is held at 35 ct. but no sales known
taken place above 31½ ct.

with much respect Yr frd
Wm T. Russell